

Deeper Bush-CIA link reported

WASHINGTON (AP) — Vice-President George Bush may have worked for the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) in 1963, more than a decade before becoming its director, according to a magazine article that cites a recently discovered Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) memorandum. Bush denied the report through a spokesman. The Nation magazine, in its current issue, quotes a FBI memo of Nov. 29, 1963, from then-Director J. Edgar Hoover to the Kennedy. In the memo, according to the magazine, Hoover stated that the bureau had briefed "Mr. George Bush of the Central Intelligence Agency" on the reaction of Cuban exiles in Miami to the assassination. The magazine article, written by Joseph McBride, also quoted an unidentified source "with close connections to the intelligence community" as saying Bush "started working for the agency in 1960 or 1961, using his oil business as a cover for clandestine activities." Stephen Hart, a spokesman for the Vice-President, said: "There's nothing to this." Hart said he had talked to Bush about the story, and that Bush denied any involvement with the CIA prior to being named director by President Ford in 1975.

Jordan Times

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جورديان تايمز يومية سياسية مستقلة عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية. الراي

U.N. launches task force

OSLO (R) — The United Nations Sunday launched a top-level task force to counter what it described as the most serious threats to future generations — economic decay and global pollution. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar, speaking at the end of a two-day conference on development and the environment, said the force would lead a U.N. fight against poverty, waste dumping, depletion of natural resources and the effects of climate change. "The phrase task force indicates the element of urgency we have," Perez de Cuellar told a news conference at the end of the Oslo meeting. The conference host, Norwegian Prime Minister Gro Harlem Brundtland, said the U.N.'s priorities into the next century included a radical rethink of population policies, protection of the atmosphere, oceans and the climate and control of toxic waste dumping. "To achieve these goals a new global ethic is needed based on equity, accountability and human solidarity with present and future generations," she told the news conference.

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AROUND THE WORLD...

Gurkha front calls off agitation

NEW DELHI (AP) — Gurkha militants fighting for a separate state in eastern India since 1986 Sunday called off their agitation after accepting a government offer of limited autonomy over parts of the tea-growing Darjeeling district. The United News of India (UNI) reported. The news agency said Subash Ghising, leader of the Gurkha National Liberation Front, announced his group's acceptance of the proposal in Darjeeling town, about 1,080 kilometres southeast of New Delhi. The front has been spearheading a separatist movement in the Darjeeling area of West Bengal state since 1986, claiming that the cultural identity of Gurkhas was being swamped by the state's majority Bengali community.

Egyptian speaker heads for Moscow

CAIRO (R) — Egyptian Parliament Speaker Rifaat Mahgoub flew to Moscow Sunday to discuss Middle East problems and ways to boost ties, presidency officials said. Mahgoub, on a six-day official visit to Moscow, is expected to hold talks with senior Soviet officials on the Palestinian uprising. The officials said Mahgoub, the second top Egyptian official to visit Moscow in two months, would also discuss the Gulf war.

Kaufman discusses hostages with Syria

DAMASCUS (R) — A leading member of the British opposition Labour Party Sunday described as encouraging talks with Syrian officials which covered efforts to secure release of the British hostages held in Lebanon. Gerald Kaufman, Labour's shadow foreign secretary, told Reuters in an interview that his discussion with Syrian Foreign Minister Farouq Al Sharaa Saturday also covered the Middle East conflict and Lebanon. "I am fully satisfied and encouraged with my talks here. I had more than two hours of talks with Sharaa which was fruitful and encouraging. We discussed the hostages issue, the Arab-Israeli conflict and the situation in Lebanon." He said he was to meet Syrian Vice-President Abdul Halim Khaddam, an expert on Lebanese affairs, later Sunday before returning for home.

Kuwait says Iran seized fishing boats

KUWAIT (R) — Kuwait said Sunday two Iranian gunboats violated its territorial waters in the Gulf last Friday and seized three Kuwaiti fishing boats at gunpoint. An Interior Ministry official quoted by the Kuwait News Agency (KUNA) said the gunboats intercepted four Kuwaiti vessels while they were fishing in Kuwaiti waters. They made off with three of them after transferring the fishermen onto the fourth, the official said.

Ten 'spies' executed in Iran

NICOSIA (AP) — Ten "counterrevolutionaries and Iraqi spies" were executed Sunday in Iran after sentencing by an Islamic court, Iranian Television reported. The television, monitored in Cyprus, did not spell out the crimes committed by those executed nor did it give their names. Such executions are usually by firing squad. The state-run television said the executions were carried out after the sentences were reviewed and approved by the supreme judicial council in Tehran.

More Syrian officials sacked

DAMASCUS (R) — Syria has sacked 20 officials from government departments and state institutions for dishonesty or mismanagement, the Syrian Arab News Agency (SANA) reported Sunday. At least 28 other officials have been sacked in the past two months for similar reasons as part of what diplomats said was a government drive against corruption in the public service.

'S. Africa has secret jet fighter'

JOHANNESBURG (R) — South Africa has a secret new jet fighter which it hopes will tip the scales in the battle for air superiority in Angola, an independent Johannesburg newspaper said Sunday. The Sunday Times said the aircraft is a modified version of South Africa's Cheeta jet, which is itself a locally-developed variant of the French Mirage III. The report said the aircraft was a match for Soviet-built MiG-23 aircraft flown by Cuban pilots in Angola. Asked to comment on the Times' report, a South African air force spokesman said: "It's part of a programme of conversion of Mirage IIIs into Cheetahs."

Baghdad, Aden sign agreement

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraq and South Yemen Sunday signed an agreement on information cooperation — the first in 16 years. The agreement allows for the exchange of scientific, artistic, cultural and historical documents and television and radio programmes.

Israeli legislators on hunger strike

TEL AVIV (R) — Parliamentarians on the far left and far right began a seven-day hunger strike outside Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's office Sunday to protest about a crisis in Israel's health care. In sweltering heat, 10 politicians from opposition parties joined forces to dramatise their anger at what they called a government failure to raise wages and finance hospitals. Mordechai Virtsinsky of the Citizens Rights Movement kept his distance from Geula Cohen, of the ultra-nationalist Tehiya Movement, but acknowledged: "This is above our permanent ideological discussion."

Maghreb ministers to meet in Algiers

RABAT (R) — Five Maghreb leaders will discuss in Algiers Wednesday their dream of creating a union of Arab states in the Maghreb. The prime ministers of the Maghreb countries of Algeria, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco and Tunisia form a committee charged with examining ways of achieving greater unity. The committee was set up at an informal gathering of Maghreb heads of state after the Arab League summit in Algiers in June. Wednesday's meeting will be the committee's first and is expected to pave the way for a full-fledged Maghreb summit later this year, diplomats said.

Nazi hunter seeks Austrian aid

TEL AVIV (AP) — An Israeli Nazi hunter left Sunday for Vienna at the invitation of the Austrian foreign ministry and said he was scheduled to have two meetings with Austrian President Kurt Waldheim. Tuvia Friedman said his talks in Austria would be devoted to a possible Austrian financing of two old people homes in Israel. "We have been corresponding (with Waldheim) for the past two years, since July 1986," Friedman told reporters at the airport.

IRA buries killed member

POMEROY, Northern Ireland (R) — Police with riot shields and truncheons stood by outside a village cemetery in Northern Ireland Sunday while the IRA buried a 22-year-old guerrilla killed in a bungled mortar attack. It was the first IRA funeral in Northern Ireland since an enraged crowd killed two British soldiers at a Belfast burial in March. Police and troops surrounded the picturesque County Tyrone village of Pomeroy as about 1,000 mourners filed down a narrow country lane from Seamus Woods' farmhouse home to the Catholic Church.



His Majesty King Hussein and Iraqi President Saddam Hussein pray at the royal cemeteries in A'zamieh during a visit the King paid to Iraq last week (Iraqi News Agency photo)

King visits royal cemeteries in Iraq

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein and Iraqi President Saddam Hussein visited the royal cemeteries in A'zamieh during the King's recent visit to Iraq, the Jordan News Agency, Petra, said Sunday. The King and the Iraqi president recited verses

of the Holy Koran at the tombs, which contain the remains of members of the Hashemite Royal Family in Iraq. Petra said it received the photos from the Iraqi News Agency following the King's visit.

Gandhi arrives today; visit expected to boost ties

By Nermeen Murad
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The traditionally strong relations between India and Jordan are expected to break new ground with the three-day visit to Jordan by Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi.

Gandhi, who arrives Monday accompanied by his wife and a high-level delegation, will discuss with His Majesty King Hussein and other Jordanian leaders the Arab-Israeli conflict, the Iraq-Iraq war, bilateral relations and issues of common concern to India and Jordan.

According to reports from New

Delhi, a major topic for Gandhi's discussion here is Jordan's quest to host the next summit of the Non-Aligned Movement. Indonesia is another contender to host the summit.

Observers here referred to India's prominent role as a founder-member of the 101-member movement and commented that Jordan's quest could be considerably boosted if India chose to throw its weight behind the Kingdom.

The Gandhis are making the visit upon an invitation by Their Majesties King Hussein and Queen Noor who visited India in 1986.

According to an Indian embassy spokesman quoted by Reuters, the Indian leader will seek King Hussein's views on the Middle East during his visit. "We consider Jordan an important country politically in the Middle East and the King is a key leader," the spokesman said.

Sources told the Jordan Times earlier that India's relations with Pakistan could also come up for discussion with the focus on a possible Jordanian role in improving New Delhi-Islamabad ties. Jordan has excellent relations with Pakistan.

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Iraq says more areas retaken, accuses Iran of killing PoWs

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — Iraq said its troops had recaptured a series of strategic mountain peaks in its rugged northeast region of Kurdistan Sunday.

It also accused Iran of gunning down Iraqi prisoners of war (PoWs) in the region in May and urged a United Nations investigation.

Baghdad Radio, quoting a high command communique, said the

First Army Corps had liberated the Twana and Spidara mountains, twelve peaks and a border police post in the Penwin area, 300 kilometres northeast of Baghdad.

On Saturday Iraq said its forces had driven Iranian troops from 23 peaks in the Mawat area of Kurdistan, after four days of fierce fighting.

Iraq, which has inflicted a

string of defeats on Iran since April, launched an offensive last month to recapture territory in its northeast. On June 30 it retook the border town of Mawat to end a year-long Iranian occupation.

Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz, in a letter to U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar, accused the Iranians of killing several Iraqi prisoners during a battle in the Mawat area in May.

"The new crime was committed by Iran when its forces opened sub-machinegun fire at Iraqi prisoners of war, in the northeastern border area of Mawat on May 15," Aziz said.

Aziz sent photographs of the bodies to Perez de Cuellar, the Iraqi News Agency (INA) said Sunday. It said the corpses were found when the region was recaptured this week.

Aziz urged Perez de Cuellar to condemn the "savage Iranian conduct" and to send a team to investigate the incident.

Baghdad has accused Iran several times of killing prisoners since the war began in September 1980. In a separate letter to the International Committee of the Red Cross, Aziz urged it to "promptly move to prevent the Iranian regime from continuing its horrible crimes against the Iraqi PoWs."

Iran denied it mistreated prisoners.

Huge relief programme starts in Sudan this week

KHARTOUM (R) — A Red Cross effort to feed a quarter of a million famine victims in south Sudan, delayed for weeks by red tape and security snags, will start Wednesday, Defence Minister Abdul Maged Hamed Khalil said.

The date was agreed at talks with Pierre Pont, local delegate of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), and ambassadors of Western donor countries, Khalil told Reuters in an interview Sunday.

Both the government and the rebel Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) gave the ICRC the go-ahead in May to start delivering food to areas in the south where a civil war is raging.

The plan would let the Red Cross move freely between areas held by the rebels and government troops.

The civil war and its disruption

of agriculture, coupled with persistent drought, have forced at least three million southerners — half the estimated population — to flee to other parts of Sudan or to Ethiopia.

Scores of those left behind are reported to be dying daily. Some are tearing leaves from trees to survive.

Khalil, a former general and vice-president, said the perception of the war as a conflict between Muslim Arabs and Christian blacks had greatly damaged Sudan.

He denied that troops were committing atrocities against civilian southerners and accused the Soviet Union of indirectly supporting the rebels. Kenya, he said, had become a major backer of the SPLA because of the church's influence there.

Soviets restate preconditions for START

GENEVA (AP) — U.S.-Soviet talks on a treaty halving each side's long-range nuclear arsenals have come "a long way" but two major obstacles remain, including U.S. "Star Wars" plans, Moscow's chief arms negotiator said Sunday.

"We do not want to lose momentum," the envoy, Alexei Obukhov, said upon arrival for the talks, due to resume Tuesday after a five-week recess for the Moscow summit.

He called for the earliest possible completion of the strategic arms reduction treaty (START) and "an equally constructive approach" by Washington.

Obukhov cited long-standing disagreement over the U.S. goal of space-based missile defences, U.S. President Ronald Reagan's strategic defence initiative (SDI)

more commonly called Star Wars, on which the Soviets want limits.

The limiting sea-launched cruise missiles was the other problem.

He said "progress at the negotiations now depends primarily" on resolving these points, which Reagan and Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev failed to do at their May 29-June 2 meeting in Moscow.

At the summit, the two leaders approved language on mobile intercontinental ballistic missiles and long-range air-launched cruise missiles for inclusion in the draft START treaty.

Noting those understandings, Obukhov said the resumed talks have "a special dimension."

"A long way has already been covered towards the treaty on 50-per cent reductions in strategic

offensive arms," he said. "The outstanding questions can and should be resolved."

Reagan and Gorbachev said after the Moscow meeting that a START treaty was still possible this year, but no breakthrough appears imminent.

Reagan repeated at the summit's start that SDI was not on the hargaining table.

Obukhov said the length of the new round had not been set. He will meet chief U.S. delegate Max Kampelman Monday to discuss procedural details.

Kampelman arrived Saturday but did not talk to reporters.

The Geneva negotiations began in March 1985. They also involve talks on space and defence, including SDI.

Both sides have agreed on the principle of 50-per cent reduc-

Uprising toll rises amid continued strike

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — A Palestinian was shot dead in a clash with Israeli troops Sunday — the third death in three days — and a general strike paralysed the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip for a second straight day.

The stepped-up Palestinian protests followed a call from underground leaders for demonstrations and for businesses to shut down to mark the start of the eighth month of the Palestinian uprising in the occupied territories.

In clashes in the West Bank refugee camp of Askar, Zubdi Mansour Zriqeh was killed after being shot in the thigh, said an official at nearby Al Irtihad hospital in Nablus. An Arab reporter said Zriqeh suffered severe blood loss after an artery was hit.

Troops shot dead a 25-year-old man in the Jabalya refugee camp in the Gaza Strip Saturday and a 22-year-old died after a clash between stone-throwers and soldiers near Nablus Friday.

At least 227 Palestinians have died in the uprising that began Dec. 9.

Schools, shops, and businesses were shuttered for a second straight day Sunday across the West Bank and Gaza Strip with most streets deserted except for increased army and police patrols.

Palestinian-owned buses and taxis were at a standstill but military sources said Israeli authorities brought buses to the Gaza Strip to take an estimated 35,000 Palestinians to work in Israel.

The Israeli army's version of Sunday's shooting in Askar said soldiers opened fire after dozens of protesters erected roadblocks of burning tyres and stones along

the main highway outside the camp and hurled rocks at the troops.

The army placed Askar under curfew, confining its 8,200 residents to their homes.

In Nablus, an 18-year-old Palestinian was in serious condition with a bullet wound in the chest after clashes with soldiers, Irtihad officials said.

Also Sunday, unknown assailants hurled a firebomb at troops patrolling Gaza City's main thoroughfare. There were no injuries. Several Palestinians were arrested.

Israeli Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin vowed Sunday to "meet violence with violence" to crush the uprising.

Rabin told a rabbinical council of America meeting the violence was unprecedented, saying Palestinians were using stones, demonstrations, burning tyres and petrol bombs instead of conventional weapons.

He said at least 70 per cent of soldiers questioned by him would

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Iran pessimistic over outcome of U.N. debate

TEHRAN (Agencies) — Iranian leaders expressed pessimism Sunday over the outcome of a Security Council debate on the shooting down of an Iranian jetliner by an American warship. But they insisted that a diplomatic settlement was the best way to handle the crisis.

"The Security Council faces one of the major tests of its political history. The outcome of the debate will show how firmly it holds to the United Nations charter," declared Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati.

"In view of the council's past performance and also due to its peculiar composition, Iran is not too optimistic on the outcome of the session," he added.

Velayati was speaking before his departure for New York to attend Tuesday's emergency meeting of the council. This was requested by Iran to consider the shooting down of the Iranian Airbus jetliner with the loss of 290 lives last Sunday as it was flying over the Strait of Hormuz.

"Iran would like to see how the council tackles the issue, which is the most obvious case of violation of basic rights of human beings and countries," Velayati added.

Deputy Foreign Minister Mohammad Jawad Larjani said at the same time that Iran prefers to settle the issue through diplomatic channels.

He implied that even if the United States vetoed a Security Council resolution, this would not necessarily spark off a violent Iranian reaction.

However, Larjani said, it was fruitless to speculate over diplomatic approaches until Washington halted its hostilities towards Iran and withdrew its warships from the Gulf.

Larjani discounted reports that President Reagan may try to use the shooting down of the Airbus to better relations between the two countries.

"That is a very strange way to start a diplomatic initiative, by shooting someone or stabbing

him in the back," he said.

He quoted former U.S. Secretary of Defence Caspar Weinberger as having said during a visit to Bahrain that Washington not only wanted to undermine Iran's military forces, but sought to undermine Iran as a nation.

Larjani likened the United States to Genghis Khan, who, in the 13th century, sent his Mongol hordes to invade Russia, Persia, much of the ancient Arab World and China.

"As long as the United States has this Genghis Khan view on Iran, it is absurd even to talk

because it would be fruitless," he said.

The day after the Security Council meeting opens the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) will hold an emergency meeting at Iran's request on the attack.

An Iranian civil aviation organisation team also left Tehran Sunday for the ICAO meeting which will be held in Geneva.

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Soviet commander warns Pakistan over Mujahedeen

MOSCOW (AP) — The Soviet commander in Afghanistan said the withdrawal of his troops was on schedule, but continued aid by Pakistan to the rebel Mujahedeen could force the Kremlin to rethink the timetable, a newspaper reported Sunday.

Lieutenant-General Boris Gromov, the top Soviet officer in Afghanistan, stopped short of saying the Soviets might slow down or stop the pullout of their troops, but that possibility seemed to be implicit in what he said.

Answering questions from the Krasnaya Zvezda military daily, Gromov said all Soviet troops have now been withdrawn from the eastern and southeastern provinces of Afghanistan.

In April, the Soviets signed U.N.-brokered accords in Geneva that committed them to begin withdrawing their more than 100,000 soldiers in Afghanistan

May 15, and to complete the pullout by Feb. 15, 1989. Half of the soldiers are to be withdrawn by Aug. 15.

"We are prepared to continue to implement strictly and faithfully the provisions of the Geneva agreements," Gromov said.

"Although I do not rule out that unceasing violations of the provisions by Pakistan may lead, as was pointed out in the recent statement of the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs, to a situation when appropriate conclusions will be made as regards the timetable of the troop withdrawal."

He did not elaborate. The Foreign Ministry issued a statement May 28 saying that if Pakistan did not halt "interference in the internal affairs of Afghanistan," the Soviet Union "would draw pertinent conclusions with respect to the timetable of the troop withdrawal and take concrete steps."

S. Africa, Angola seek settlement timetable

NEW YORK (R) — Preliminary talks were scheduled in New York Sunday ahead of U.S.-brokered negotiations on ending a civil war in Angola and granting independence to Namibia after 70 years of rule by Pretoria.

Participants in the four-party talks formally beginning Monday will seek to turn political commitment to the withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola into agreement on a timetable.

The Cubans, helping Luanda counter a 13-year guerrilla campaign by South African-backed rebels, have advanced to within 15 kilometres of the Angolan border with Namibia.

An organiser at the talks said South Africa would come under pressure to indicate a target date for the independence of Namibia.

A South African official said delegation leader Neil van Heerden, the director general of foreign affairs, would meet armed forces chief Jannie Geldenhuys at the country's New York mission to discuss strategy for the negotiations.

Organisers said the Cuban and Angolan delegations would hold similar meetings at their United Nations offices.

Angola, Cuba and South Africa are scheduled to begin two days of technical negotiations at a secret venue — probably a State Department guest residence — in New York Monday with U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs Chester Crocker as chairman.

"Either the talks will end in collapse on Monday afternoon or they will run on through the agreed two days until sometime on Wednesday," one South African source said. "There is a lot of detail to get through."

An American official said Friday the Reagan administration was optimistic: "The signs are better today than they have ever been for a deal."

The current peace initiative was launched in London in May and continued two weeks later with bilateral talks between South Africa and Angola in Brazzaville, Congo.

By David Doake

Editor's Note: This is the third of a seven-part series entitled "Learning to be Literate in Arabic: Needs and new directions." The series was written by Professor David B. Doake of the School of Education at Acadia University in Nova Scotia, Canada.

Doake has done field research in Jordan on the specific problems of illiteracy in Arabic, making this series particularly useful to teachers, government specialists and parents.

Reading: A natural language learning process

Early reading development

The results of a variety of studies have indicated that learning to read can and should be a natural language learning process — provided that we allow it to be so and do not interfere with that learning process.

Case histories of early readers, for example, have clearly demonstrated that young children can learn to read before they go to school, usually without instruction of any kind and occasionally without their parents being aware that they have in fact learned to read.

The outstanding feature of these children's experiences, which seemed to contribute most to their early reading development, was that they had grown up in book-oriented homes and had been read to extensively from a very early age.

Because most of these studies of early readers were retrospective in nature, the researchers were not able to describe how this wealth of experience with books and reading contributed to the children's reading development.

More recently conducted studies where the researchers went into the homes of pre-school children and observed how they grew as readers and as writers, have been able to do so with an increasing degree of specificity.

Through the collective results of these and other similar studies, it has become clear that the process of learning to read has to be viewed quite differently from seeing it as something that has to be taught formally, in a step-by-step manner.

Most importantly, it has become apparent that reading can and should be a primary language learning activity that can and should be learned in much the same way, and at the same time, as oral language is learned. Just as there is no such thing as a period of "talking readiness" in learning to talk, nor is there such a thing as a period of "reading readiness" in learning to read.

Children who grow up in book-oriented homes begin to learn to read when they are held in their parents' arms and are read their first nursery rhyme, story or jingle.

By being given frequent opportunities to share in the repeated reading of favourite stories of memorable quality, children,

quickly demonstrate that they not only enjoy the experience tremendously, but that they want to participate in it actively.

As their oral language develops, so does their ability to reproduce their familiar stories in reading-like ways. Providing that their approximating efforts to retrieve the language of their books are met with the same non-corrective and strongly supportive response that meets their attempts to produce meaningful oral language, they will almost certainly continue to direct their energies intuitively towards gaining independent access to their favourite stories.

Just as in oral language learning, they are being given the opportunity to direct, regulate and monitor their own strategies and processes for learning to read. And just as learning oral language is made possible through the countless hours of joyful interaction which occurs between parent and child, so too does learning to read originate in the same type of interaction which occurs when loved parents spend time with their children and their books.

The role of attitudes and interest in learning to read

The crucial role of sharing books with children, both in home and in school, in their development as readers has now been established. As a result of this experience, which should start like oral language at birth, extremely powerful and positive attitudes towards books and reading can become established.

Playing with books becomes a preferred activity. Book handling knowledge, how to hold a book, turn its pages, and know that a story is contained between its covers, is given the opportunity to grow.

Attention spans when listening to stories become virtually inexhaustible. The warm, human sharing which occurs when books, parents and children come together, becomes permanently associated with reading and creates an inner drive for them to gain personal control over this facet of their experience. Without this intrinsic motivation to want to learn to read, the process becomes an enormously difficult one for young children.

Learning the language of books

But reading to young children does much more than create an inner drive to want to learn to read for themselves. Most importantly, it presents them with the



Children from the Madaba centre for girls on a fieldtrip to the Jordan Valley

They have the right to read

opportunity to develop fluent control over the language of books and over the structure of a variety of stories in the form of their schema.

Through having their favourite stories read over and over again, their amazing ability to absorb tremendous quantities of language allows them to reproduce them through reading-like behaviour. All they seem to need to start this process is someone who will willingly respond to their repeated requests to "read it again please."

By its very nature, the story-time situation in the home and the school is a shared experience which invites participation on the part of the children. Given the opportunity to listen to favourite stories read repetitively, young children will usually demonstrate desire to join the reading in a variety of ways. They may "mumble" along with the reader, occasionally finishing off a line at some predictable point. This "completion" reading becomes more pronounced as the story is read and re-read, with the reader sometimes only having to provide the first word of a sentence or line as a cue.

Sometimes children will "echo" read a word, a phrase, a sentence, and sometimes, they will do this with a whole story as it is read with them. As their

confidence and familiarity with a story grows, they may engage in "cooperative" reading. This is when they endeavour to "read along" with the reader, taking the lead at times, reading in unison, or on occasions, trailing just behind the reader's voice with their own. Participating in shared reading situations in this manner is similar to the shared conversations that play such an important role in learning to talk.

All of these reading-like behaviour strategies are developed and used intuitively by children in their efforts to emulate the demonstration in which they are sharing, so that they too, can sit down with their books and play out the role of being a reader.

The growth of these strategies for gaining control over the language of their books is, of course, influenced by a number of factors. The speed and invitational manner in which the stories are read to them, the degree of predictability present in the language of their stories, the preparedness of the parent to read and re-read the stories, and the amount of freedom the children have to experiment and approximate in their reproduction.

In the past, children's efforts to retrieve their stories in reading-like ways have been grossly

under-valued. The process was thought to have been the result of superficial, rote-memorisation of words of the stories.

A careful examination of the transcripts of audiotape recordings made of children engaged in the process of reproducing stories in this way, soon reveals that it is meaning that dominates their attempts. They seem to be able to absorb the meaning and the structure of a story and much of its vocabulary, and then reconstruct their version of it using their knowledge of "book language" to do so. They constantly strive to reproduce the meaning of their stories rather than concentrating on a surface level accuracy and they do so with fluency, using sophisticated patterns of phrasing and intonation.

To the casual and sometimes surprised observer, these young children are behaving just like a skilled reader — except that they are not using the print on the pages of their stories in the visual sense. And at this stage of their development they firmly and legitimately believe that they are reading, just like their mothers and fathers. They have not yet come to understand the difficult and abstract concept that their stories are recorded in the black marks on the pages.

The beginnings of independence as a reader

For children to learn to reproduce their stories read through reading-like behaviour, obviously they need to have their stories read and re-read to them. Gradually, however, it has been found that they begin to display a desire to gain independent access to new stories that interest them. This, coupled with a growing awareness of the presence of print on the pages of their stories and the role it plays in reading, causes them to try to match what they are saying with what they are seeing. Their fluent, adult-like reproduction of their stories changes at times to a more

arhythmic pattern as they experiment with finger and or voice pointing in order to match with their eyes, their ears and their voices as accurately as possible.

Through learning to match word-space with increasing accuracy, they are able to go from the sound of the known word to its visual representation. By so doing they can begin to build their own rule system for the sound-to-symbol relationships by forming hypotheses concerning these, experimenting, discarding and generating what works, just as they create their own grammars to produce meaningful oral language.

Because they have access to a large number of memorable stories which draw them back again and again, they are able to gain a tremendous amount of practice with large chunks of vivid and expressive language. Their rate of learning is frequently rapid and marked by supreme confidence, just as in their oral language learning. It becomes even more so if they are being encouraged to experiment with learning to write at this time.

Becoming a fluent reader

An examination of the environment in which learning to read naturally occurs most easily reveals that it is non-corrective and warmly supportive of all attempts on the part of the children to learn. The children's own delicate feedback mechanisms are able to develop without the damaging intervention of some superior adult who demands an accurate reproduction of the words in the text.

Instead of being directed to focus their attention on the visual information in order to determine what word comes next on the page, they are able to learn to orchestrate the visual and the non-visual cueing systems with increasing ease. They quickly move to fluent reading by reading almost anything they can lay their hands on. They particularly like to read a series of books written by the same author as their growing familiarity with the style and the structure of the writing allows them to read with little effort.

Predicting what should come next on the page on the basis of what would "sound like language" and what would "make

sense" becomes an integral strategy as they read. This predicting results from their knowledge of the language of books and on concentrating their attention on reconstructing meaning as they read. They use as little or as much as they need to of the visual information on the page to confirm their predictions.

When what they have read does not make sense to them or sound like language, they go back and take a "return," probably checking the visual information more carefully. Their inner, developmentally-based drive to master the task keeps them going and the adult's role continues to be that of a stimulator, a facilitator, and a provider of the necessary printed materials and conditions for the learning to occur, rather than an instructor who constantly tries to direct and control the learning process.

While this description of how reading is learned has been considerably over-simplified, it has been composed in an attempt to provide an understanding of the naturalness of the process, when the appropriate conditions are provided. It demonstrates very clearly, that all children have a right to be read to and with. To deny them access to that experience from very early in their lives is just as devastatingly serious in its effect on their future development as readers as denying them access to oral language would be to their development as talkers.

The establishment of extremely positive attitudes towards wanting to learn to read provides the initial and all important foundation for their learning. The gaining of control over the language of books and their variety of story schema, supplies them with the essential ability required to read fluently. Giving them access to large amounts of memorable written language enables them to construct their own rule system for its sound/symbol relationships.

Finally, the description illustrates how the processes involved in learning to read can and should remain under the control of the learner. If the conditions outlined here were provided for all children by adults who love to read themselves, learning to read could become as joyful and as simple as learning to talk.



Children learning to read at a kindergarten

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 773111-19

PROGRAMME ONE

16:00 Koran
16:20 Programme review
16:25 Tom and Jerry
16:40 Cartoons
16:45 Children's programme
17:00 Live transmission of football match (Iraq-Lebanon)
19:00 News programme summary
19:15 Local programme
19:40 Programme review
20:00 News in Arabic
20:25 Arabic series
21:35 Programme review
21:40 Educational programme
22:10 Monday Forum (variety programme)
23:00 News summary in Arabic
23:10 Variety programme (cont'd)

PROGRAMME TWO

18:00 Des Chantres et Des Lettres
18:30 Rue Carnot
19:00 News in French
19:15 Weekly Sports magazine
19:30 News in Hebrew
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 World News 18:00-24 Hours Summary
21:10 Secret Army
22:00 News in English
22:20 Feature film: "Whitecat" (opened to Aunt Alice)
23:00 Light Music
07:30 Newsday
08:00 Morning Show
10:00 News Summary
10:45 Just a Minute
11:00 Good Vibrations
11:30 Readings
12:00 News Summary
12:05 Pop Session
13:00 News Summary
13:05 Pop Session Contd.
14:00 News Bulletin
14:30 Special Feature
15:00 Concert Hour
16:00 News Summary
16:05 Instrumentals
16:30 Old Favourites
17:00 Young Sound
17:30 Pop Session
18:00 News Summary
18:05 Sports Roundup
18:30 News Desk
19:00 Date with a Star
20:00 Evening Show
21:00 News Summary
21:05 Evening Show Contd.
22:00 News Summary
22:05 Evening Show Contd.
23:00 News Summary

WORLDNET

(At the American Cultural Centre)

8:00 America Today
11:00 Newsline
12:00 America Today
14:00 Cinematrac
14:25 American English
14:45 George Michael's Sports Machine
15:00 Worldnet Dialogue
16:00 Worldnet Dialogue
17:00 ABC News Week in Review

BBC WORLD SERVICE

639, 720, 123 KHz

07:00 Newsdesk 07:30 Behind the Wall
07:45 Reflections 07:50 Waveguide
08:00 World News 08:09 24 Hours: News Summary 08:30 Nature Notebook 08:45 Recording of the Week 09:00 Newsdesk 09:30 Six Cities 10:00 World News 10:09 24 Hours: News Summary 10:30 Can Communism Cope? 11:00 World News 11:09 Reflections 11:15 Behind the Wall 11:30 Anything Goes 12:00 World News 12:09 British Press Review 12:15 Good Book 12:30 Financial News followed by Sports Roundup 12:45 Pebbles' Choice 13:00 News Summary followed by Six Cities 13:30 The Vintage Chart Show 14:00 World News 14:09 News About Britain 14:15 News Ideas 14:25 Book Choice 14:30 The Ken Bruce Show 15:00 Radio Newsworld 15:15 Brain of Britain 1988 15:45 Sports Roundup 16:00 World News 16:09 24 Hours: News Summary 16:30 Anything Goes 16:45 Jazz Scene (U.K.) 17:00 Anything Goes 17:09 World News 17:15 The Bishops Come to Lambeth 18:00 Radio Newsworld 18:15 Sportsweek 18:45 The Seven Ages of Man 19:00 World News 19:09 Commemorative 19:15 Sportsweek 19:30 The A-Z of Hollywood 19:45 The World Today 20:00 World News 20:09 Book Choice 20:15 20th Years of Music in Australia 20:45 Sports Roundup 21:00 Newsdesk 21:30 Multitrack 1: Top 20 22:00 Outlook, opening with News Summary 22:30 Outlook contd. 22:45 Pebbles' Choice 23:00 World News 23:09 Twenty-Fours: News Summary 23:30 To Be A Pilgrim 24:00 Reflections 01:45 Sports Roundup 02:00 World News 02:09 Commemorative 02:15 Education Today 02:30 Multitrack 1: Top 20

VOICE OF AMERICA

MW 1260 & SW 7200, 9565, 11740, 11925 and 15210 KHz

07:00 News 07:10 Newsline 07:30 VOA America 08:00 News 08:10 Newsline 08:30 VOA Morning 17:00 News 17:10 Newsline 17:30 Music USA 18:00 News 18:10 Focus 18:30 Special English News & Features 19:00 News 19:10 Newsline 19:30 Magazine Show 20:00 News 20:10 Focus 20:30 Special English News & Features 21:00 News 21:10 Newsline 21:30 Music USA 22:00 News & Editorial 22:15 Music USA Jazz 23:00 News 23:10 World Report

CULTURAL CENTRES & LIBRARIES

Tel: 6610267

American Centre 644771
American Cultural Library 641520
British Council 6361478
French Cultural Centre 637009
Gretche Institute 641993
Soviet Cultural Centre 642030
Spanish Cultural Centre 624049
Turkish Cultural Centre 639777
Haya Arts Centre 665195
Hussein Youth City 6671816
Y.W.C.A. 641793
Abdul Hamdi Shoman Foundation 672541
Amman Municipal Library 637111

MUSEUMS

Children's Heritage and Science Museum: Fun and knowledge for all ages, plus a small planetarium at the Haya Arts Centre. Open all week 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Closed on Friday.
Folklore Museum: Jewellery and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel: 651760.
Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabal Al Qal'a (Citadel Hill). Opening hours: 9:00

SERVICE CLUBS

The Amman Lions Club. Meetings every first and third Wednesday at the Regency Palace Hotel, 7:30 p.m.
Lions Philadelphi Club. Meetings every second and fourth Wednesday at the Amman Hotel, 7:30 p.m.
Philadelphi Rotary Club. Meetings every Wednesday at the Holiday Inn, 1:30 p.m.
Rotary Club. Meetings every Tuesday at the International Hotel, 2:00 p.m.
Royal Automobile Club. Jabal Amman, Eighth Circle. Tel. 816534, 817534.

PRAYER TIMES

03:56 Fajr
05:31 (Sunrise) Dhuha
12:41 Dhuhur
16:24 Asr
19:51 Maghrib
21:26 'Isha

CHURCHES

St. Joseph Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Amman. Tel. 624590.
Church of the Annunciation (Roman Catholic) Jabal Luweibdeh. Tel. 637440.
De la Salle Church (Roman Catholic) Jabal Hussein. Tel. 661757. Sunday English mass (summer time 6 p.m., winter time 5 p.m.).
Terzian Church (Roman Catholic). Jabal Luweibdeh. Mass in tulle language, most every Saturday at 5:30 p.m. Tel: 622366.
Church of the Annunciation (Greek

ORTHODOX

Abdali. Tel. 623541.
Anglican Church (Church of the Redeemer) Jabal Amman. Tel. 625383.
Coptic Church (St. Mark's) Amman. Tel. 601359.
Catholic Church (St. Michael) Amman. Tel. 771531.
Armenian Orthodox Church (St. Nersis) Amman. Tel. 775261.
St. Eudokia Church (Syrian Orthodox) Amman. Tel. 771751.
Amman International Church (Interdenominational) meets at Southern Baptist School in Shmeisani. Tel. 671534.
Evangelical Lutheran Church (Church of the Good Shepherd) Amman. Arabic Service: Sunday 7 p.m. Rev. N. Snir 811295.
Rainbow Congregation (meets at the Good Shepherd's Church) Interdenominational-ecumenical English Service: Saturday 6:30 p.m. Tel. 622605. Rev. Veli.
The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (Mormon) Tel. 815817, 821264.

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport. Tel. (08) 532005, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

ROYAL JORDANIAN FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)

16:00 Agaba (RJ)
16:20 Damascus (RJ)
16:30 Larnaca (RJ)
16:40 Beirut (RJ)
16:45 Doha (RJ)
16:45 Sana'a, Jeddah (RJ)
17:45 Cairo (RJ)
18:30 New York, Vienna (RJ)
18:35 Bucharest (RJ)
19:00 Casablanca, Tunis (RJ)

OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)

16:20 Sana'a (LH)
16:40 Istanbul, Ankara (TK)
16:40 Muscat, Bahrain (GF)
16:40 Cairo (MS)
16:45 Beirut (ME)
16:45 Kuwait (KU)
16:45 Beirut (ME)
16:45 Baghdad (AF)

DEPARTURES

ROYAL JORDANIAN FLIGHTS (Terminal 1)

07:45 Agaba (RJ)
11:45 Tripoli (add. 1) (RJ)
11:45 Bucharest (RJ)
12:30 Frankfurt, Copenhagen (RJ)
12:45 Vienna, Chicago, Los Angeles (RJ)
13:30 Cairo (RJ)
13:45 Brussels, Montreal, New York (RJ)
20:40 Kuwait (RJ)
20:45 Bahrain, Doha (RJ)
20:50 Larnaca (RJ)
21:00 Abu Dhabi (RJ)
21:10 Cairo (RJ)
21:15 Doha, Muscat (RJ)
21:30 Beirut (add. 1) (ME)
21:50 Baghdad (AF)

OTHER FLIGHTS (Terminal 2)

06:30 Cairo, London (BA)
06:40 Riyadh (add. 1) (SV)
09:15 Beirut (ME)
11:10 Frankfurt (LH)
14:00 Ankara (TK)
14:05 Cairo (MS)
14:20 Beirut (add. 1) (ME)
14:30 Bahrain (GF)
15:35 Kuwait (KU)
01:30 Paris (AF)

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.
The weather will continue to be hot and the winds will be northwesterly light to moderate. In Agaba Gulf, it will be hot and the wind will be northwesterly and the seas calm.

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Amman 22 / 35
Agaba 26 / 41
Deserts 26 / 36
Jordan Valley 25 / 41
Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 35, Agaba 41. Humidity readings: Amman 24 per cent, Agaba 23 per cent.

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:
Dr. Tayseer Khader 606857
Dr. Abbas Al Hakim 891256
Dr. Hani Haddadin 777751
Dr. Fakher Bilal 625778
Firas pharmacy 661912
Ferdows pharmacy 778336
Al Asena pharmacy 637055
Nairokh pharmacy 625672
Al Salam pharmacy 636720
Yacoub pharmacy 644945
Sumaisani pharmacy 637660

TAXIS

Abram taxi 663911
Zaid taxi 664476
Khayyam taxi 641341
Cairo taxi 819157
Jordan taxi 623050
Kurdi taxi 841309

IRBID:

Dr. Marwan Habbab 242796
Rescue 605238
Al Shara'a pharmacy 605238

ZARQA:

Dr. Farah Al Aghawi 981923
Khalifeh pharmacy 985417

HOSPITALS

AMMAN:
Hussein Medical Centre 818133/32
Khalidi Maternity, J. Amn 644281/6
Al-Khater Maternity, J. Amn 642412
Jabal Al-Hussein Maternity 642462
Malhas, J. Amman 636140
Palestine, Shmeisani 664174
Shmeisani Hospital 669131
University Hospital 845845
Al-Musader Hospital 667278
The Islamic, Abdali 666173/7
Al-Ahli, Abdali 664164/6
Italian, Al-Muhajreen 777101/2
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh 775112/6
Army, Madaba 891617/5
Queen Alia Hospital 6624090
Amal Hospital 674155

ZARQA:

Zarqa Govt. Hospital (09)983323
Zarqa National Hospital (09)991071
Ibn Sina Hospital (09)986732
IRBID:
Princess Basma Hospital (02)275553
Greek Catholic Hospital (02)272275
Ibn Al-Nafes Hospital (02)247100
AQABA:
Princess Haya Hospital (03)314111

GENERAL

Ministry of Information 641467
Ministry of the Interior 663111
Ministry of Tourism 642311
Driver's License Dept. 892283
Foreigners and Frontiers Dept. 892408
Meteorological Dept. 662408
Public Security Headquarters 630521
Telecommunications Corporation 638301

Crown Prince returns from U.K.

AMMAN (Petra) — Their Royal Highnesses Crown Prince Hassan and Princess Sarvath Saturday returned home at the end of a several day visit to Britain. Prince Hassan and Princess Sarvath were received upon arrival by His Royal Highness Prince Abdullah Ibn Al Hussein, Royal Court Chief Marwan Al Qasem, Deputy Prime Minister Thouqan Hindawi, Chief of Staff Gen. Fathi Abu Taleh, Director of Prince Hassan's office and senior government officials.

Haj Hassan inspects venue for expatriates congress

AMMAN (Petra) — Acting Minister of Labour and Social Development Khaled Al Haj Hassan Sunday visited Al Hussein Youth City to inspect final arrangements for the Jordanian Expatriates Congress which is due to open Monday under Royal patronage.

A total of 800 delegates are to take part in the congress's meetings. They will discuss a wide range of subjects, on social, economic, labour and political issues.

After touring the premises the minister chaired a meeting of committees in charge of preparation work and reviewed a unified Jordanian working paper which will be submitted to the delegates.

The paper covers issues of concern to the expatriates and offers guidelines for discussions.



NEW KUWAITI ENVOY: Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri Sunday received a copy of the credentials of Saleman Salem Al Fisman as Kuwait's new ambassador to Jordan. Fisman succeeds Ibrahim Al Baho who ended his tour of duty in Jordan which began in 1977.

Egyptian security team ends visit

AMMAN (Petra) — A delegation from the Egyptian Public Security Department (PSD) led by Major General Mamdouh Bura'i left Amman for home Sunday at the conclusion of a week-long visit to Jordan.

Bura'i and his team held talks with PSD Director Abdul Hadi Al Majali and toured a number of security centres.

They also familiarised themselves with the PSD's comprehensive security system being implemented in the Kingdom.

In a statement upon departure Bura'i said that he was impressed by the great achievements of the PSD in Jordan and the application of the comprehensive security system in Jordan.

The Egyptian delegation was seen off by Major General Nasouh Muhieddin, the PSD assistant director, and senior PSD officers.

Committee collects JD 1.34m for uprising

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Popular Committee for Supporting the Palestinian Uprising deposited JD 1.34 million in Jordanian banks at the end of last month, according to the committee Chairman Abdul Majid Shuman.

Shuman said at a public meeting Saturday that the donations came from banks, individuals, the construction and commercial sectors in Jordan, charitable societies and trade unions.

So far, he said, JD 179,000 have been delivered to the Palestinian people in the occupied Arah territories, most of which went to hospitals and families of martyrs there.

Shuman noted that the committee was finding difficulties in passing on the donations to the Arah people in the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, who are witnessing an uprising against the Israeli occupation.

But, he said, all efforts were being made to deliver the contributions and enhance the people's resistance.

Contributions raised by the committee are in addition to those being raised by the Zakat Fund, sponsored by the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs.

The ministry raised JD 300,000 from government employees in the East Bank in April.

In an interview with the local press, Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Abdul Aziz Al Khayyat said in May that the Zakat Fund has collected JD 500,000 of which JD 190,000 had been spent in the course of supporting the Arah people's uprising in the occupied territories. He said that the Zakat Fund was paying monthly allowances to Palestinian students in the East Bank universities who are cut off from their families living in the West Bank, upon directives from His Majesty King Hussein.

Money transferred to the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, he said, has been paid to the families of the martyrs, the wounded and the Arah men detained in Israeli jails.

Pakistani expert to set up plan for crafts industry

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Social Development has invited a Pakistani expert to help set up a comprehensive plan to initiate Jordanian traditional crafts and industries projects in a number of regions in the Kingdom.

The expert was received Sunday by the ministry's Secretary General Mohammad Sqour with whom he discussed the general outlines of a plan, which entails starting small traditional industries as a first step leading to an incorporation of all industries under one umbrella supervised by the ministry.

According to ministry officials the plan aims to increase the income of Jordanian families by opening the door for them to be involved in the production of traditional items which depict the country's national heritage and culture.

They said that the Pakistani expert will remain in Jordan for six months visiting different sites for the project.

The officials said his stay is within the framework of a Jordanian-Pakistani agreement on technical cooperation drawn up in harmony with a programme of cooperation among members of the Islamic Development Bank's member countries.

Ministry takes disciplinary action against pharmacists

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Health Ministry is subjecting 24 Jordanian pharmacists to severe disciplinary action because of their repeated violation of regulations concerning the sale of antibiotics without doctors' prescription.

A report in Sawt Al Shaah Arabic daily quoted the director of the ministry's Pharmacy and Drug Control Department, Husam Musmar, as saying that the 24 pharmacists have been repeatedly found to have sold antibiotics which are liable to cause harm to public health if taken without a doctor's prescription and under doctors' control.

The Ministry of Health, two years ago, enforced a law banning the sale of antibiotics to all members of the public except against a doctor's prescription.

Musmar said that Health Ministry teams continue to tour

pharmacies and drug stores around the Kingdom to ensure that the pharmacists are abiding by the given regulations.

He said the Health Ministry could have referred the violators to courts since their action was clearly a violation of the ministry's law, but has preferred to refer the matter to the Jordanian Medical Association (JMA) to take the strictest possible disciplinary action against the 24 pharmacists.

Musmar warned that any further violations might prompt the ministry to refer pharmacists to court, a move that might result in the closure of the pharmacy involved in selling antibiotics without proper prescription.

The disciplinary council groups members of JMA, the Health Ministry and the private sector.

WAJ to announce water distribution programme

AMMAN (J.T.) — A programme for the distribution of water supplies to various regions in the Kingdom will be announced by the Water Authority of Jordan (WAJ) before the Eid Al Adha (Feast of the Sacrifice) which is due around July 25, according to a report in Al Dustour Arabic daily.

The report quoted the Ministry of Water and Irrigation Secretary General Mu'taz Al Bilbeisi as saying, Jordan does not suffer from water crisis but the programme was deemed necessary to ensure sufficient pumping at regular times.

A number of regions in Amman and other parts of the country have witnessed a disruption of water pumping on a number of occasions, but that was due mainly to repairs on the water network, a process which is going on and whenever it is needed.

Referring to a temporary disruption in the pumping of water to Turra, Amra, Jumelda and Shajara in the Ramtha district, Bilbeisi said it was due to a depletion of water in the local springs that fed the region.

WAJ has embarked on drilling new artesian wells in the northern district and in the coming week pumps will be installed to supply the four villages with water, Bilbeisi said.

In Mafrqa, he noted, WAJ was pumping water in accordance with a defined programme but citizens are advised to ration water consumption for all purposes.

Jordan prepares to meet major water challenge in next 20 years

By Nermeen Murad
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Small talk among the British is known worldwide to centre on the weather, they express jubilation when the sun is out but their moods dampen with the weather when it rains.

In Jordan, rain means water and that subject, to most Jordanians, is more than a basis for social conversation, it is an instrumental factor of socio-economic growth in the Kingdom.

Since Jordan suffers from limited water resources due to its dry climate and relatively scarce rainfall, the Water Authority of Jordan (WAJ) faces tremendous pressure to develop, manage and utilise the Kingdom's water resources with maximum efficiency in order to meet the demands.

WAJ will be faced with further obstacles and will have to overcome many hurdles in the next two decades to keep up with the municipal water needs of 5.3 million in the year 2005. According to statistics made available to the Jordan Times the projected population will need 270 million cubic metres (Mm3) of water a year only for municipal purposes.

Municipal purposes include domestic and commercial uses, public institutions and small industries connected to the public system.

Currently, the Water Authority pumps around 150.4 Mm3 a year to 96 per cent of Jordan's population of 2,896,000, for a per capita consumption of about 120 litres per day.

Water pumped in 1987 (by the Water Authority of Jordan) for



King Talal Dam is the biggest water reservoir in Jordan (file photo)

municipal purposes totalled 150 Mm3, which corresponds to about 148 litres per capita per day (L/C/D). Loss of water through leakage was estimated at 20 per cent. Thus in 1987, although the Water Authority pumped 148 L/C/D through its pipes, only 120 litres reached subscribers.

According to statistics provided by the Water Authority, Amman Governorate alone, which has a population of 1,203,000 and around 180,000 house connections, is supplied with 68.2 Mm3 of water a year. Irbid, with the second highest population in Jordan (704,000) and 88,000 house connections, is supplied with 27.0 Mm3.

Other governorates' population, number of house connections, and volume of water supply by WAJ are as follows:

Zarqa, population 419,100, has 567,000 house connections sup-

plying 12.6 Mm3; Mafrqa, population 102,000 has 15,900 house connections supplying 11.6 Mm3; Balqa, population 200,600 with 259,000 house connections supplying 9.1 Mm3; Karak, population 124,200 has 158,000 house connections supplying 4.8 Mm3; Tafila, population 428,000 with 670,000 house connections supplying 1.8 Mm3 and Ma'an Governorate with a population of 101,000 with 399,700 house connections supplying 14.5 Mm3 of water.

With the exception of the surface water from King Abdullah Canal, Jordan depends on groundwater for municipal and industrial water supply. At present, the Water Authority exploits the following major groundwater wells: Amman/Zarqa, Azraq, Qastal/Siwaga/Qatranah, Samasud/Sumaya,

Wadi Aqih, Wadi Dhuleil, Wadi Arab, Jordan Valley, riftsides and Disi.

Three other projects are underway to increase the water supply in Jordan: The Wadi Wala baseflow, Mukheiba Wellfield, and Al Wahdah Dam.

Jordan shares with other semi-arid regions certain characteristics with regard to the water sector, mainly scarcity of water resources and fluctuation in time and place.

However, Jordan has the additional problems of soil erosion and unwieldy topography. These problems have led to difficulties in securing a suitable green cover, as well as to high costs of dam construction and protection from sedimentation.

They have also led to high capital and operational costs of water projects.

Hiyasat returns from East Berlin

AMMAN (Petra) — Housing Corporation Director General Yousef Hiyasat returned to Amman Sunday after taking part in a symposium on housing problems confronting developing nations, held in East Berlin.

Delegates from 14 Third World nations took part in the two-week symposium and reviewed working papers presented by the participating countries, Hiyasat said.

The seminar urged developing states to employ locally produced primary materials for construction operations, and to involve the local population in housing projects through their participation in financing housing projects," Hiyasat pointed out.

He said the delegates emphasised the need for continual improvement of the housing projects already set up in their countries and underscored the importance of developing nations to benefit from the experiments of the industrialised and developed world in housing schemes.

During their stay in East Berlin, the delegates toured German housing schemes. They also reviewed efforts being made in East Germany to ensure proper housing for every family in the course of a national comprehensive plan.

Hiyasat said he submitted a working paper to the symposium outlining the housing situation in Jordan and policies being taken to implement the country's housing strategy from now until the year 2006.

He also referred to the employment of locally produced building materials being used in housing projects.

The symposium was organised by the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements in cooperation with the East German government.



Minister of Higher Education Nassereddin Al Assad Sunday opens a pan-Arah conference on criticism in Arab literature at Yarmouk University.

Assad opens meeting on criticism in Arab literature at Yarmouk

IRBID (Petra) — Minister of Higher Education Nassereddin Al Assad Sunday opened a pan-Arah conference on criticism in Arab literature organised by the Faculty of Arts and Humanities at Yarmouk University.

He delivered a speech underlining the importance of criticism as a means to enrich Arab literature.

The minister called on universities to "Arabise" terms used in criticism for the benefit of Arabs involved in literature.

University President Mohammad Hamdan said that Yarmouk University was encouraging research in Arabic by providing facilities for writers and intellectuals, and involving them in conferences.

Taking part in the four-day conference are delegates from more than 20 universities in Jordan, Syria, Iraq, Egypt, Algeria, Mauritania, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain and Lebanon.

The delegates will discuss a number of research works in literary criticism.

Ajloun Girl Guide camp ends

AJLOUN (Petra, J.T.) — A five-day Girl Guide camp set up near Ajloun by the Ministry of Education ended its activities Sunday.

A total of 240 Girl Guides from various provinces took part in these activities which included lectures, seminars and vocational training work under the supervision of teachers and other officials.

The camp was visited Saturday by Her Royal Highness Princess Basma who presented badges to prominent Guides in recognition of their good efforts.

The director of the Ministry of Education's Girl Guides Depart-

ment delivered a speech upon the conclusion of the camp's activities in which she announced that 35 Scouts and 21 Girl Guides, who took part in the summer camps, have been chosen to take part in the pan-Arah Jamboree which will be held in Morocco.

The director also announced that 24 Girl Guides and Scouts from various provinces will be sent to Sweden to take part in a Jamboree which will open there on July 29.

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The director also announced that 24 Girl Guides and Scouts from various provinces will be sent to Sweden to take part in a Jamboree which will open there on July 29.



TABBAA OPENS SAFEWAY STORE: Minister of Industry, Trade and Supply, Hamdi Tabbaa, Thursday opened the first Safeway store in the Kingdom, which is regarded as the largest trade and supply centre in the area. The opening ceremony was also attended by Minister of Planning Taher Kananan, the American ambassador in Amman and other dignitaries and businessmen. Those who attended the grand Safeway opening admired the presentation of the goods, the low prices and excellent services provided by Safeway employees as well as the large parking space.



LADA INCENTIVE TRIP: A group of 16 British dealers for the Lada car company, arrived in Jordan a few days ago on a five-day "incentive trip". The dealers won the trip for selling most cars in a period of six months and chose Jordan as their destination for its combination of good weather, variety in landscape, historical sites and its hospitable culture.

WHAT'S GOING ON TODAY'S EVENTS EXHIBITIONS

- ★ A permanent book exhibition, at Tower Building, Jabal Amman, 3rd Circle.
 - ★ A permanent exhibition of plastic art by 27 Arah artists at the Plaza Hotel.
 - ★ Art exhibition by Ahmad Ismail at the Petra Bank Gallery.
 - ★ Housing exhibition at the Plaza Hotel.
 - ★ Art exhibition by Ibrahim Al Shalabi. The French Cultural Centre.
 - ★ Flower exhibition by Huda Ayyash at the Royal Cultural Centre.
- FILMS**
- ★ Seal Island, the British Council 5:00 p.m.
 - ★ Vivement Dimanche, 8:00 p.m., French Cultural Centre

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation. Established 1975.

Chairman of the Board of Directors:

MAHMOUD AL KAYED

Responsible Editor and Director General:

MOHAMMAD AMAD

Editor-in-Chief:

RAMI G. KHOURI

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Facsimile: 661242

The Jordan Times is published daily except Fridays. Subscription and advertising rates are available from the Jordan Times advertising department.

U.S. holds no monopoly in arms

SAUDI-AMERICAN relations may or may not have been hurt by Riyadh's decision to turn to Britain for arms worth tens of billions of dollars, but there is no denying the fact that it was a stinging blow to the American defence industry. Adding insult to injury to American arms manufacturers was Thursday's American Senate vote to strip Maverick missiles from the proposed \$1.9 billion arms package for Kuwait since it has raised the strong possibility that Kuwait may follow Saudi Arabia's example and turn to non-American sources for its defence needs.

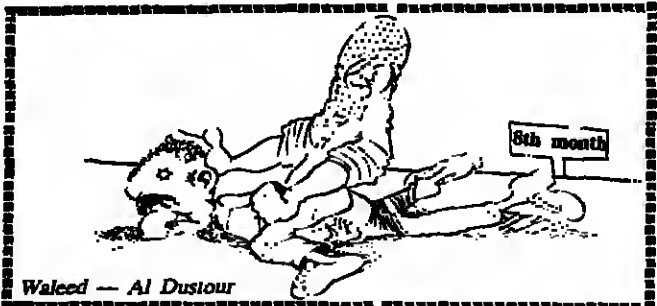
Accusations and recriminations flying between the White House and Congress over arms sales to Arab states fool no one, and are of no practical use, either to the countries that have real defence needs or to American military manufacturers who seek new foreign orders. More than anything else, the American taxpayer and the millions of unemployed Americans are the real victims of the political manoeuvring of their own elected representatives who invoke the stale theory that arms sales to any Arab state pose a potential threat to Israel's security. Very conveniently ignored is the reality that it is Israel which holds the sole record of occupying, and repeated armed incursions into, Arab territories; and, if anything, it is the Arab side that needs protection from the predatory paws of the Zionist state.

We take heart from the Saudi decision to acquire its defence needs from a non-American source, if only because it is a strong signal to Washington and to the American public that the United States of America holds no monopoly in arms trade, and can no longer use arms sales as a tool to secure political leverage with the Arabs. At the same time, we also hope that American voters would realise that their own lawmakers are the culprits, and would move to ensure that their future representatives will protect the economic as well as political interests of their country in the Middle East and elsewhere. It should not be a hard job, since all that the Middle East needs is the implementation of the lofty American principles of liberty, fraternity, freedom and self-determination for all people.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Bolstering inter-Arab cooperation

KING Hussein paid a brief visit to Cairo on Saturday for talks with President Mubarak on current Arab affairs and developments in the Middle East region. The meeting in Cairo should be considered as part of the two leaders' efforts to bolster inter-Arab cooperation and solidarity in the face of challenges confronting the Arab Nation. Coordination between Amman and Cairo should be regarded as a link in a long chain of relations binding Amman with Egypt, Syria, Iraq and other parts of the Arab World; and the talks between the two leaders should be viewed as an exercise by the leaderships of the two countries of their national commitments, and a demonstration of their will to serve Arab causes. Such commitment has been able to build strong bridges of understanding and cooperation between Arab capitals and has resulted in agreement and consensus at the Amman Arab Summit last November. Needless to say, Jordan's leading role, and King Hussein's active efforts have been instrumental in achieving harmony in the Arab World and infusing strength in the Arab nation's stand. Jordan's efforts world-wide have won the Arab nation more support from different nations and succeeded in promoting the cause of collective Arab action and joint Arab struggle. Jordan is intent on going ahead with its national policy of supporting Iraq in its war with Iran and the Palestinian people in their uprising to achieve freedom.



Al Dustour: Jordan, Egypt: 'close cooperation'

SUMMING UP the outcome of his talks in Cairo on Saturday, King Hussein stressed that Jordan and Egypt were going the same way together towards achieving what is best for the Arab Nation and its future generations. King Hussein's statement upon leaving Cairo reflects the monarch's confidence in the future and also demonstrates the very strong relations between Jordan, and Egypt and the close cooperation between the political leaderships in Amman and Cairo with regard to Arab issues. King Hussein and President Mubarak discussed Arab affairs and development in the Middle East since their last meeting three months ago. But there is no doubt that the Palestinian uprising in the occupied Arab territories was on top of the two leaders' agenda. The Iran-Iraq war was also on the agenda; and the two leaders must have had time to assess the situation in the Gulf region following the great Iraqi successes in the battlefield. The two leaders meeting was truly dedicated to Arab issues and also to Jordanian-Egyptian cooperation in all fields and all levels.

Sawt Al Shaab: Pan-Arab action

KING Hussein's meeting with Egyptian President Mubarak in Cairo on Saturday assumes real significance, coming in the wake of a successful Arab summit meeting in Algiers, and following a wide range of political activity by King Hussein in the Arab arena. The King's talks with Mubarak were within the context of pan-Arab action and in the light of their perception of the situation in the Arab region and the challenges posed to the nation. King Hussein shed light on the nature of his talks with the Egyptian president in his statement to the press upon leaving Cairo on Saturday evening. The King outlined the role played by the Egyptian and Jordanian leaderships towards supporting the uprising in the occupied Palestinian land which the King describes as a real revolution against injustice and oppression. The uprising was perhaps the most important topic on the two leaders agenda which also included the situation in the Gulf region following Iraq's victories in the battlefield.

'Pentagongate: the sleazy factor'

By Waleed Sa'di

IT IS called the sleazy factor. And it involves mega-business of 80 to 100 billions of dollars annually and mega corruption that reaches the upper echelon of government and industrial giants in the U.S. Of course I am talking about no other than the "Pentagongate" scandal that surfaced only a couple of weeks ago after nearly two years of surveillance and probing by the FBI. No wonder this latest affair is being viewed as the dimension which is going to break the political backbone of the Republican Party and effectively pull the rug from under the feet of George Bush in his bid for the White House.

The catastrophic impact of this latest episode of too many scandals and shocking revelations was compounded by the fact that it came in the wake of such numerous scandals that rocked Washington of late and on the eve of the November presidential election. The repercussions of this latest bombshell have been further exacerbated by the stinging disclosure that President Ronald Reagan was not privy to the FBI investigations throughout the past two years when FBI agents got a scent of the large-scale corruption that invaded the Pentagon, of all places.

And while the full-scale and intensity of the Pentagongate scandal has not yet been determined, it is already being seriously speculated that its tentacles could reach the far and near fringes of federal government, within and without the Defence Department, as well as the upper echelon of key industrial giants right across continental USA. Even former Secretary of the Navy John Lehman who has been projected to be the secretary of defence in the George Bush administration if elected to the White House has been caught by the webs of the wild-fire which ensued from this most recent ordeal to hit Washington. Others have begun to point their fingers to former Secretary of Defence Casper Weinberger accusing him of having been derelict in carrying out his duties. To be sure, the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth about this whole matter has yet to be verified and adjudicated and all persons mentioned already as having been hounded by the FBI investigations must be presumed innocent under the American system of justice until proven otherwise in a court of law.

Still the damage to the federal government in Washington is simply too massive and the tidal waves generated by it are surely colossal and far-reaching. Washington has barely recovered from previous shock waves generated by such scandals as the contra scandal and its associated dimension, the Iranagate fiasco, by such disturbing revelations as disclosed by the books of former White House Chief of Staff Ronald Regan and former White House spokesman Larry Speakes and by the on-going accusations being levelled against Attorney General Edwin Meese, the trusted friend and confidant of President Reagan as having abused his authority. All in all the past stories suggested that President Reagan's grip of federal government operations was practically non-existent and that there were simply too many delegations of executive powers for the liking of the

American electorates.

Over and above the aforementioned and their devastating ripples across the U.S., the Pentagon scandal brings forth new dimensions to the inner working of government in Washington. To begin with, this latest story out of Washington would rekindle the memory of the Americans in an election year that the U.S. Navy was caught being charged \$770 for a toilet seat by one of the respected industrial giants in the U.S. But the worst recollection that would come to the minds of the American voters in this context is the warnings once issued by no other than ex-General and former Republican President Dwight Eisenhower back in the late fifties against the conspiracies perpetuated by the industrial-military complex in America. Former President Eisenhower did not coin that terminology lightly or, God forbid, in vain. He was able to discern way back that the industrial giants in the U.S. have a vested interest in fanning the flames of hostility between Washington and Moscow in order to augment their military production and reap huge profits. It is noteworthy in this context that the Reagan administration has witnessed an unparalleled and unprecedented military buildup in "peace time" conditions which nearly tripled the national debt in the process.

All these negative developments and others are projected to work in favour of the Democratic candidate for president, Michael Dukakis, who is already making hay of the never-ending scandals in Washington and is already on record as wanting to clean house, cut needless defence expenditure and lower the U.S. profile on the international scene by extending the dependence on multilateralism and its existing institutions.

But it should be expected that neither the Republicans nor their candidate for president, George Bush, are going to sit idle and allow the Democratic forces to hit them below the belt with impunity. They will seek to make the Democrats also vulnerable where it hurts most in the eyes of the American voters and that is why they are now picking on the Democratic speaker of the House of Representatives, Jim Wright, accusing him of wrongdoing and misuse of authority for personal gains. To illustrate the relevancy and potency of accusations and counter accusations of wrongdoings, President Ronald Reagan himself has jumped to the fray and recommended that a private prosecutor be named to investigate the Wright affair. This tit-for-tat tactic will be amusing as well as rewarding to the Americans who have an insatiable lust for information on the domestic front. As for the rest of us, we are in for a very interesting election year in the U.S. The stakes are obviously high for all mankind. But in the context of East-West relations, the election of Governor Michael Dukakis could usher a new era and a new leadership on par with the new leadership in Moscow. As for us in the Middle East, it really does not make difference who is going to be in the White House. What counts is what we are going to do with ourselves and for ourselves, which, it seems, is not very much.

North Yemen election could ignite change

By John Fullerton
Reuters

SANAA — As North Yemen's voters while away the days until the result of this week's election is known, they chew qat, a mild narcotic, and discuss such issues as the empty quarter.

Spigs of the leafy stimulant littered a polling station where candidates and their supporters contemplated the changes — in North Yemen and beyond — that the country's first-ever parliamentary election on Tuesday could bring.

One young man, cheeks bulging with qat, commented: "the candidate I voted for is a good fellow who loves his country, and he has enough money of his own not to be greedy."

Important qualities, which the 128 new parliamentarians will need as they grapple with the issues facing North Yemen.

The country is locked in a protracted territorial dispute with its giant northern neighbour Saudi Arabia, centred on the sandy wasteland known as the empty quarter. South Yemen and Oman also have claims on it.

Saudi encroachment on the area would be sensitive for North Yemen because its oil fields are nearby. On the other hand, the government of President Ali Abdullah Saleh depends on Riyadh for expatriate remittances and development aid.

A similarly explosive border dispute with South Yemen was defused in May when Saleh signed a pact with Aden on practical steps towards unification, an elusive goal since 1972.

Tuesday's election is likely to have been keenly watched by the people of Marxist-ruled South Yemen, where it may have boosted enthusiasm for full integration.

The poll would also represent a strong signal to Aden that Saleh has established legitimacy, political observers said.

"Parliament should be able to provide a process of smooth transition for government and its leaders, limiting the effectiveness of any external attempt to overthrow our leaders through assassination or a coup d'etat," said one observer.

A foreign diplomat added: "this (election) is a bold venture,

and North Yemen's Omani and Aden neighbours may not prove immune to infection if it proves successful."

Final results are not expected before Friday at the earliest, officials say, largely because of the remoteness of many constituencies and the rugged terrain.

But Yemeni and foreign observers forecast Saleh would achieve the popular and constitutional legitimacy he sought in this election.

Turnout was high, despite the fact that many of the 1.1 million registered voters work abroad in Gulf states.

Significant also was the extent to which tribal authority — until recently autonomous in some areas — had been involved in the electoral process, with many tribal leaders or sheikhs putting up sons, brothers or cousins as candidates.

A key issue is how many seats will go to the religious conservative grouping known as the Muslim Brotherhood.

Strong in the capital and with some support in tribal areas, it could form a substantial bloc in

the new parliament, which is expected to open later this month.

"The Islamic constituency is mild in comparison with its counterpart in other Arab countries, but there is a fear that if they achieve a strong foothold in parliament they will become more extreme," said one diplomat.

Under the current constitution, Saleh's term of office expired on May 22, but it has been extended a further 90 days until August, by which time the new parliament must consider his re-election for a further four years.

The 46-year-old army colonel has the power to appoint 31 representatives to the new parliament, and supporters and detractors alike will watch closely how he does this.

He will also appoint a new government, and the extent to which it differs from the current administration will depend largely on the composition of the Majlis-i-Shoor.

Perhaps Saleh's strongest asset in Tuesday's grass-roots election was the stability he has provided North Yemen since he came to power in July 1978.

OPEN FORUM

Welcoming a friend

The people of Jordan today welcome Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, the guest of His Majesty the King and his government, and one of the most prominent leaders of the Non-Aligned Movement.

No one deserves a more hearty welcome than Gandhi, who is considered as an extension of the historical leadership of the great India in modern history, starting from Mahatma Gandhi, the strength behind India's independence, Jawaharlal Nehru and Indira Gandhi to the youthful leadership of Rajiv Gandhi.

It is clear that Rajiv Gandhi has the basic leadership qualities to lead India, but that is not all. Behind him he has a political heritage. His mother was one of the most prominent women of this century, and his grandfather Jawaharlal Nehru was one of the great leaders of the post World War II era, who practised democracy as a genuine part of his leadership and enriched its experience in the developing countries.

Democracy is one of the most significant features of the friendly country of India.

Democracy has had its roots in India since ancient times. We have learnt that in old days people formed well organised communities and kingdoms in which rulers were expected to follow the path of righteous duty towards their subjects and rule justly.

The constitution which came into effect in 1950 declares India a sovereign, socialist, secular, democratic republic and lays down the primary objectives of the constitution as: securing social, economic and political justice for all citizens; guaranteeing freedom of thought, belief, faith and worship, equality of status and opportunity and fraternity; assuring the dignity of the individual and the unity and integrity of the nation.

Seven fundamental rights are granted to citizens under the constitution: the right to equality, the right against exploitation, cultural and educational rights and the right to constitutional remedies.

The greatness of India's democracy could be reflected in the way Nehru perceived it. In one of his speeches he has said: You may define democracy in a hundred ways, but surely one of its definitions is self-discipline of the community.

India, the second largest populated country in the world after China, has adopted democracy and peaceful coexistence as its main objectives. Coexistence is a very fundamental issue in India. In 1954, Nehru told the London Observer: "The only alternative to coexistence is co destruction." Also, in a speech to Parliament in 1954, he said: "If you reject coexistence, the alternative is war and mutual destruction."

If we want to know the greatness of India the best way is to repeat what Mrs. Gandhi once said: "If you wish to know something about India, you must empty your mind of all preconceived notions of what you have heard or read. India is different, and experiencing as it must seem, would like to remain so! You will not find any of your formal labels useful. India is many and it is one. It has incredible diversity yet it is bound in a unity that stretches way back into unwritten history. There is hardly a thought in philosophy, science or the arts of which you will not find some grain in India. In all the ups and downs in its long history, India's culture and traditions have been continuously evolving, shaped by its many experiences within itself and influenced from outside. It has not hesitated to adopt, adapt and absorb new ideas."

That is India, which founded, under the historical leadership of Nehru, Nasser, Tito, Sukarno and Cho En Lai, the Non-Alignment Movement. With their long vision, they enhanced the role of the non-aligned countries in international politics.

We welcome our great guest in Jordan and we greatly appreciate his firm support to our just cause and rights, particularly the Palestinian question.

Not only does India support the Palestinian rights but it also backs all other Arab causes, whether in the Gulf war or in Lebanon.

Despite the enormous problems facing India, the development and achievements of the country deserve our attention, recognition and respect, especially in the field of science and technology.

One may say that India has accomplished the most significant achievements in the field of science and technology. India is making great efforts in the field of socio-economic development. It has also succeeded in countering the burden of the population explosion.

These are few features of the great country, which considers democracy as one of its most important achievements. It gives inspiration to all developing countries. The people of India refuse to give up democracy in favour of any other political way of life. They consider it as an integral part of their spiritual heritage which was preached by Gandhi and defended by their great leaders and the people.

While we welcome our guest we do not need to repeat what our people already know about the ethical and moral principles which underlie his policy that governs his relations with other states.

Guided by such principles that strengthen his policy in dealing with international issues, success is likely to be his ally permanently. Warmly we welcome the guest of His Majesty the King and wish him a happy stay in the country.

Abdullah Khalili,
President, Jordan-India
Friendship Society

Mexico's new government — more of the same?

By Bernd Debusmann
Reuters

MEXICO CITY — Mexico, one of Latin America's most stable republics, appears to be heading into the turbulence of multi-party democracy after elections predicted to loosen the ruling party's 59-year stranglehold on power.

"The era of virtual one-party rule has ended," declared the country's probable next president, Carlos Salinas de Gortari after claiming victory in Wednesday's presidential elections.

"Now we are entering a new political stage... with a majority party and very intense competition from the opposition."

Salinas ran for the Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI), which has never lost a vote for president, senator or state gov-

ernor since it was founded in 1929.

Although results will not be known before Sunday, Salinas said the elections had seen "more triumphs for the opposition" than ever before.

Senior officials expected at least one, possibly two, seats in the 64-strong senate to fall to the opposition, with a considerably expanded opposition presence in the 500-seat chamber of deputies.

Salinas' main contenders were Cuauhtemoc Cardenas, the son of one of Mexico's most popular presidents, and Manuel Clouthier. Pre-election opinion polls forecast they would draw around 40 per cent of the vote.

Cardenas, expelled from the PRI last year for demanding democratic reforms inside the party, led a newly-formed

alliance which grouped Mexico's major leftist parties for the first time. Clouthier represented the conservative, pro-business National Action Party (PAN).

"The winds of change are blowing through Mexico," declared an announcer on the pro-government private Televisa TV network. As they have done in every election for the past six decades, opposition parties have accused the PRI and the government — the line between the two is often blurred — of having used massive fraud to deny them victory.

In an unprecedented show of unity, three of the four opposition presidential candidates, ranging from the Trotskyist left to the right, made a joint protest to Interior Minister Manuel Bartlett, who is also head of the

PRI-dominated federal election commission.

Diplomats were cautioned about expectations that Wednesday's poll would mark the beginning of the end of a system which gave Mexico six decades of stability after the chaos of the 1910-21 revolution. It claimed more than a million dead and left many Mexicans with an abhorrence of radical change.

"Even if the PRI's majority were whittled down to 50 per cent, it would still be in control," said a Latin diplomat. "The left and the right may join forces on rare occasions to block government initiatives. But they are unlikely to do so consistently."

Still, there was little doubt here that political debate — both inside and outside parliament — would be livelier than in the past.

The apparent gain in opposition strength was said to be based as much on economic discontent as on a popular desire for political participation.

For a quarter of a century, until 1976, the Mexican economy grew at an average six per cent a year, faster than the population.

"In more than one sense... public opinion accepted the average citizen's isolation from the political process and irrelevant elections in return for systematic economic growth," said an analysis in the monthly magazine Nexos.

This unspoken understanding began breaking apart in the economic crisis which began in 1979 and accelerated in 1982, when Mexico declared it could no longer pay the interest on its huge foreign debt.

Mexican analysts say that a genuine democratic opening would imply a weakening of the near-absolute power the president enjoys under the present system.

For the past six decades, Mexican presidents have controlled the federal government as well as the ruling party, the two houses of congress, and even the judiciary.

Fast presidents have all rowed back on promises of reform once they were in office, and sceptics predict Salinas will do the same.

"However, one cannot rule out the possibility that the new president... decides to be one of the forces which lead to the destruction of the authoritarian presidency so that a new, weaker but more democratic presidency can rise from the ashes of the old."

Dukakis checks on possible running-mates

By Samuel Perry
Reuters

WASHINGTON — Michael Dukakis, reaching outside his formal campaign organisation, is relying on old Harvard classmates for background checks aimed at eliminating surprises when he chooses his vice presidential running-mate.

Dukakis hopes to avoid the kinds of problems that have damaged earlier presidential campaigns, dogged by embarrassing revelations about vice presidential candidates or their families.

"We don't want anything that

re-enacts the old Eagleton-Ferraro thing," one campaign source told Reuters.

Missouri Senator Thomas Eagleton withdrew as George McGovern's 1972 running-mate after reports he had received psychiatric treatment, and New York representative Geraldine Ferraro was plagued during her 1984 vice presidential run by questions about her husband's financial dealings.

Campaign Manager Susan Estrich told Reuters the selection process must be handled well because "voters will view it as an exercise of presidential judge-

ment."

After wrapping up his party's presidential nomination by winning the June 7 California primary, Dukakis appointed Boston attorney and 1960 Harvard Law School classmate Paul Brontaus to direct the vice presidential search.

A campaign source told Reuters that Brontaus, Dukakis's national campaign chairman, farmed out the responsibility for conducting detailed investigations into each contender's personal and financial records to lawyers around the country — including at least two other Har-

vard classmates.

The campaign source, who spoke on condition he not be identified, said the probe was "incredibly detailed, including school records and military records... what kind of medication you are taking — anything that could be potentially embarrassing."

"It goes on forever... did he ever drink too much or ever eat too much ice cream?" the source said. "These are all valid questions these days."

He said those still under scrutiny are Ohio Senator John Glenn, Texas Senator Lloyd Ben-

sen, Florida Senator Bob Graham, Missouri Representative Richard Gephardt and Indiana Representative Lee Hamilton.

Another possible contender, Tennessee Senator Albert Gore, met Dukakis Tuesday to discuss the post.

Former space hero Glenn is rated the top contender in Washington political circles. A decision is expected prior to the opening of the Democratic convention in Atlanta on July 18.

Gephardt, who opposed Dukakis for the presidential nomination, also appears to be high on the list.

Jesse Jackson is also under consideration, according to Dukakis. But polls say racial bias would hurt a Dukakis-Jackson ticket and it is considered unlikely the black civil rights leader will be offered the spot.

Dukakis has emphasised that the process would be kept very quiet, unlike in 1984 when Walter Mondale summoned prospective running-mates to his North Oaks, Minnesota, home for interviews.

In recent weeks, Dukakis has met with all of the men on his list, but he has had almost nothing to say publicly about the process.

Aspin sees 8 possible explanations in Gulf

WASHINGTON (AP) — The chairman of the House of Representatives Armed Services Committee said Saturday he sees eight possible explanations for why the cruiser Vincennes shot down an Iranian passenger jetliner a week ago.

There is evidence that both supports and discredits each of the explanations, according to Representative Les Aspin.

Pentagon officials are reviewing last Sunday's incident in the Strait of Hormuz, when the cruiser fired a missile and knocked down the airliner and killed all 290 people aboard in the mistaken belief that it was an Iranian F-14 fighter.

Aspin, along with other legislators, have received a series of classified briefings on Pentagon efforts to determine the sequence of events and why the missiles were fired.

Aspin said the main question centres around Pentagon claims that the Vincennes was receiving signals from the jet on a frequency reserved for military transmissions. Those transmissions led to the belief that an F-14 jet fighter was approaching the cruiser, navy officials say.

According to Aspin, the possible explanations for the attack are:

- There were no military signals. That would mean the ship's Aegis air defence system that detected the signals malfunctioned.
- Human error aboard the cruiser in reading the signals. Aspin noted that although the crew members were experienced in reading Aegis information, they had not spent much time in the volatile Gulf.
- The United States intended to fire at a civilian plane. Aspin noted that argument is made by Iranian officials. He gave it no credence.
- The Iranian plane was carrying a military transponder on purpose, which would have sent the fighter-like signals, because it sometimes used the plane to ferry troops to combat.
- The jetliner was carrying a military transponder that was unknowingly turned on. Aspin noted that a transponder may have been taken from military stockpiles, but he also noted there is no previous evidence that such a move occurred.
- The jet was carrying a transponder that was activated on purpose in hopes of causing the navy to attack.
- The military-type signals were sent from an F-14 that was flying elsewhere in the Gulf.
- The military-type signals were sent from an F-14 that was flying in extremely close vicinity to the Airbus.

Without naming sources, it said a GCHQ listening station in the Gulf region monitored radio traffic for two hours leading up to the shooting.

British intelligence reportedly faults U.S.

LONDON (R) — A London newspaper said Sunday that British intelligence had prepared a report criticising U.S. navy action in shooting down an Iranian airliner a week ago, killing 290 people.

But the British Foreign Office, which controls overseas intelligence operations, denied any knowledge of such a report. "It sounds highly unlikely to me," a spokesman said.

The Sunday Times said government communications headquarters (GCHQ), which monitors international radio traffic, had challenged Washington's argument that the Airbus was outside civilian air corridors and travelling in a way that could be seen as menacing the U.S. warship which shot it down.



An Iranian pilot mourns over the coffin of his wife, who was among the 290 people killed when an American warship shot down an Iranian Airbus over the Gulf last week.

Kuwait buys Soviet arms

KUWAIT (R) — Kuwait has signed an arms deal with Moscow only two days after the U.S. Senate voted to block the sale of American missiles to the country, the official Kuwait News Agency (KUNA) reported.

A visiting Soviet military delegation headed by Yuri Grishin, deputy minister of foreign economic relations, signed the contract Saturday as Kuwaiti Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah headed for Washington to discuss a request for American arms.

"The signing of this contract comes from Kuwait's faith in the principle of diversifying its arms sources according to the quality of these arms and their suitability," KUNA said.

The KUNA statement spoke of "some military equipment" without elaborating and diplomats said this suggested a small contract, perhaps guns or communications equipment.

But they said it was a clear signal to Washington that Kuwait would turn elsewhere if Congress failed to approve a request for 40 F-16 fighter-bombers and advanced missiles in a package worth \$1.9 billion.

The Senate voted Thursday to eliminate air-to-ground Maverick missiles from the deal, citing possible "threats to Israel."

Kuwait, on the edge of the Iraq-Iraq war, has earmarked \$5.5 billion for defence purchases over the next 10 years designed mainly to counter threats from Iran.

Kuwait has come under repeated Iranian missile attack for its support for Iraq. Last year, it put half its oil tanker fleet under the American flag to secure U.S. naval protection in the Gulf.

The Kuwaiti ambassador to Washington, Sheikh Saud Naser Al Sabah, was quoted in Kuwaiti papers Sunday as suggesting Kuwait would not accept the U.S. deal without the Mavericks.

"Kuwait requested a complete deal and will not accept to omit basic elements," he told Kuwaiti journalists in Washington. "We will pay cash for American military hardware for legitimate defensive goals. Kuwait has and will never beg to obtain arms," he said.

Kuwait has in the past turned to the Soviet Union after being rebuffed by the U.S. Congress. In 1985, it bought Soviet SAM-7 anti-aircraft missiles and other arms worth \$325 million after Congress turned down a request for American-made Stingers.

Diplomats said the British-made Tornado and Freocho-made Mirage-2000 fighters were Kuwait's alternatives if the F-16 deal fell through.

British Defence Secretary

George Younger arrives to Kuwait Monday to discuss arms sales, two days after Britain announced a multi-billion dollar agreement with Saudi Arabia to supply some 50 Tornados, 60 Hawk jets, 90 helicopters and six minehunters.

The Reagan administration said the Saudis turned to Britain because Congress had repeatedly blocked arms sales to Arab states.

The White House also attacked the Senate vote on Mavericks for Kuwait, saying it damaged U.S. interests.

Sheikh Saud said the vote could affect the visit of Sheikh Saad, but would not fundamentally alter U.S.-Kuwaiti ties.

In a related development, a senior Israeli official attacked Britain's multi-billion-dollar sale of arms to Saudi Arabia, saying it threatened Israel's "security" and undermined Middle East peace efforts.

Yossi Ben-Aharon, director-general of Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's office, said in Tel Aviv Tornado fighter-bombers supplied by Britain gave the Saudis a "long arm" that could serve a combined Arab onslaught on the Zionist state.

"We cannot discount the possibility that if we will be faced with a confrontation with a number of Arab states, Saudi Arabia will at the worst moment volunteer to hit us from the soft underbelly, from the south, using its long arm that it is now acquiring from the British and the missiles that it is now acquiring from China," he told visiting American rabbis.

Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin, addressing the same meeting, said Israel estimated the value of the British arms sale at between \$20 and \$30 billion, highlighting what he called "the acceleration of the arms race of the Arab states."

He said the Tornado's main capability was in attack, not interception.

Father does not know which son Israeli army wants to expel

HEBRON, Occupied West Bank (R) — Ahmad Mohammad Ziadah sat at home in the Israeli-occupied West Bank town of Hebron Saturday confused about which of his sons the Israeli occupation authorities had ordered expelled.

"Is it Radwan or Mahmoud?" the 76-year-old asked. Both 31-year-old Radwan and 34-year-old Mahmoud are currently in detention and their father said he had not heard anything from authorities.

Told by neighbours that the army Friday ordered a person called Ziadah from Hebron to be expelled along with nine other Palestinians, Ahmad said that he checked in two Arabic-language newspapers Saturday.

Al Fajr newspaper identified the Ziadah ordered deported as Mahmoud. Al Quds said that it was Radwan.

Told by Reuters that the army spokesman in Tel Aviv said that Radwan would be expelled, Ahmad looked only slightly less unsure. "But Al Fajr says that Mahmoud will have to leave," he said.

Israel said the 10, including Radwan, were organisers of the Palestinian uprising, which entered its eighth month Saturday in the occupied West Bank and Gaza.

The army accused the group, six from the West Bank and four from the Gaza Strip, of being affiliated with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) or the fundamentalist movement Islamic Jihad.

"Radwan and Mahmoud did nothing," their father said, adding that he had no idea why the army arrested them five months ago.

"Will either of them be expelled abroad tomorrow?" Ahmad asked. "Can he appeal against the decision? What shall we do?"

Radwan was a labourer and Mahmoud was a trade unionist, he said.

"I don't know for sure which one they want," said the retired

farm labourer, seated in his sitting room in the poor Khaitoun district of Hebron while children played outside in the dust.

"But whether it is Mahmoud or Radwan, the intifada is not mine or theirs. I can't stop people rebelling," Ahmad added.

"Radwan was always political, even at school," said Abdul Raouf, his former sports teacher at Hebron high school. "He was also a good soccer player. He was captain of the school team."

Villagers said soldiers had repeatedly raided the Ziadah house in recent weeks, searching for a third son, Mustafa, a 25-year-old student at Jerusalem's Hebrew University who was now in hiding.

They said Khaitoun, a line of narrow, humpy streets winding up a steep hill, was considered to be on the frontline of the uprising as it overlooked a main road where protesters often threw stones at army patrols and cars with Israeli licence plates.

Inside his house, Ahmad studied a photograph of Mahmoud as a 15-year-old schoolboy and three more recent pictures of Radwan.

A brass wall plaque read: "God bless our home."

Palestinian leaders condemn Beirut feud

By Rana Sabbagh
Reuters

AMMAN — The head of the Palestine National Council (PNC) said Saturday the bloody clashes between Palestinian factions in Beirut refugee camps were part of a conspiracy against the Palestinian people.

"I am sad and distressed... the actions that took place there could only be committed by a person or a group that has no human responsibility towards the Palestinian people and their suffering," Sheikh Abdul Hamid Al Sayeh said.

There is no justification for those who plotted this conspiracy against our people, those who executed it and those who helped them," Sayeh, 78, told Reuters.

He said the Palestinian people would punish all those involved in the conspiracy. "History will have no mercy on them."

Other Palestinians in Jordan expressed sorrow and anger over the death and devastation at the Shabla and Bourj Al Barajneh camps.

Fighters of the Syrian-backed dissident Abu Musa group on Friday forced fighters loyal to Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat out of Bourj Al Barajneh, his last stronghold in Beirut.

Shabla had fallen to Abu Musa's men June 27.

Abdul Jawad Saleh, former mayor of the occupied West Bank town of Al Birah, described the battles as suicide and said they had lost the Palestinians' credibility. At least 113 Palestinians were killed and thousands forced to flee their homes in the four months of fighting.

PLO Executive Committee member Abdul Razzaq Al Yalnia said the events in Beirut were part of a campaign aimed at discrediting the legitimate leadership of the PLO.

Bassam Abu Sharif, a top Arafat adviser, accused Syria Thursday of actively taking part in attacks on the camps. But Sheikh Sayeh and other PLO officials in Amman stopped short of openly accusing Damascus.

In Beirut, a pro-Syrian Palestinian official said Saturday that Arafat was planning to stir up trouble at Palestinian refugee camps in Sidon after losing his last stronghold in Beirut.

"We have reports that Arafat will try to cause a flare-up of violence in the camps of 'Ain Al Hilweh and Mich Mich after his defeat," said Aho Adnan, a senior official with the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-Geographical Command (PFLP-GC).

Israel says no Falasha settlements in Lebanon

KIRYAT SHMONA, Israel (R) — A senior Israeli military source Sunday dismissed Lebanese reports that Israel was settling Ethiopian Falasha Jews in South Lebanon.

Lebanese Foreign Ministry official Salah Staitieh said Friday that Lebanon was preparing a complaint to the United Nations about reports that Israel had allowed scores of black Ethiopian Jews to settle in 14 plantations in its self-declared "security zone" in South Lebanon.

He quoted local residents as saying the farms were around the village of Shebaa, 15 kilometres west of the town of Marjayoun, where the Israeli-backed South Lebanon Army (SLA) militia has its headquarters.

The Israeli source said Shebaa, five kilometres north of the border in the foothills of Mount Hermon, was a frequent staging post for Palestinian commandos trying to infiltrate into northern Israel.

Israel had increased the army and SLA presence in the area to prevent "infiltration" but there was no Israeli civilian settlement anywhere in South Lebanon, he said.

A spokesman for the U.N. Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL), which patrols a strip north of the Israeli-Lebanese border, said he had no indication that Israel was settling Falashas or anyone else in the "security zone."

UNIFIL sources said the Israelis had taken over a number of Lebanese farms in the Mount Hermon foothills for "security" reasons.

Israel brought more than 10,000 Ethiopian Jews to the Zionist state in a secret 1985 airlift. Some are now doing military service in the Israeli army.

Kurdish rebels train in Lebanon

By Marwan Naamani
Reuters

YANFA, Lebanon — In the rugged hills of eastern Lebanon, heavily-armed Kurdish rebels have taken over a remote village to train for a guerrilla war against the Turkish army.

At least 100 men and women of the Marxist Kurdish Workers Party (PKK), seeking autonomy from the Ankara government, receive hectic military and political training in the rocky terrain of the Bekaa Valley.

Called the Academy of Muhsun Korkmaz after a Kurdish hero, the school is reminiscent of Hollywood western movies. Guerrillas live in tents erected across a hilltop and receive their training in a dusty wasteland just below.

They come from Turkey's eight million Kurds. There was no sign of guerrillas from the smaller disaffected minorities in Iraq and Iran. Some factions have expressed the need for cooperation in the past but little has happened in practice.

Red PKK flags flattered over the hilltop. Guerrillas clad in olive green military fatigues and brandishing automatic weapons guarded the area while others rested in their brown tents.

Journalists were invited to the camp recently for a rare meeting with PKK chief

Abdullah Ocalan, a stocky, mustachioed figure who took on the Kurdish cause when Turkey was torn by political violence in the 1970s.

He said the camp was set up in Lebanon for military and political training in 1980 after a coup led by the present Turkish president, Kocan Evren, brought a clampdown on groups employing political violence, including the Kurds.

Ocalan, a smiling, pensive figure, is public enemy number one in Turkey and the government there seized copies of an Istanbul newspaper that published an interview with him last month.

Nearly 1,100 guerrillas, soldiers and civilians have died in Turkey since the PKK launched its violent campaign for Kurdish autonomy in the southeast of the country in August, 1984.

Turkish officials say rebels infiltrate through the Syrian and Iraqi borders into rugged countryside where they can easily hide and where policing is difficult.

Ocalan said the camp was financed by the people of Kurdistan and the party's sympathisers. He did not elaborate.

One of the fighters said members of Lebanon's own Kurdish minority sometimes join the training but he said most had become Lebanese

citizens "so we don't believe they are true Kurds any more."

Rohani, 28, a woman clad in military fatigues and wearing a red and white chequered headscarf, said she had left her family to join her brothers battling the Turkish army since 1980.

She said it was her duty to fight. It was the duty of all Kurdish women to do their best to regain the freedom of their country, she said.

"It is my wish and it is an honour to die fighting for the PKK and Kurdistan," she said.

An instructor showed Rohani and her colleagues how to use automatic weapons, heavy machineguns and rocket launchers.

The Lebanese government, crippled by 13 years of civil war, has been unable to bar such military training camps in the Bekaa Valley, which is outside its control.

"We are aware of them, but it is outside our authority. We can't do anything about it," a Lebanese official, who refused to be identified, told Reuters.

Ocalan, 35, said: "After Evren's coup, we came to Lebanon. The arrival was a result of our friendly relations with Syria and Palestinian factions. We came here just like other liberation movements."

Unlike Iran and Iraq, Turkey does not recognise the Kurds as a separate ethnic

group and it bans their language from public and official use.

Syria, the main foreign power-broker in Lebanon where it has more than 25,000 troops, controls the Bekaa, but the area is also a stronghold for the Islamic Revolutionary Guards, Palestinian fighters and Libyan forces.

Members of several underground international guerrilla organisations, including the Japanese Red Army and the Italian Red Brigades, are also reported to have received military training in the Bekaa.

"Here we don't see any Lebanese people. You only find Palestinians, Kurds and Syrians," said a guerrilla who identified himself as Sergar.

Ocalan said at least 100 PKK members arrive through Syria for three months training before they return to "their homeland to continue the struggle."

Besides the military training, rebels study the history of Kurdistan and the political conflict with Turkey, he said.

"We have no time to spare. We want to liberate our country from the Turkish occupation," said Belgas, a 32-year-old guerrilla.

He said after the rebels finish their training they sneak back to their homeland on tracks dug through scrublands and across mountains.

Gandhi arrives today

(Continued from page 1)

According to a Reuters report from New Delhi, Gandhi is concerned with the diminishing role of the Non-Aligned Movement which has ceased under its current chairman, Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe, to exert the influence it did under Gandhi's predecessor and mother, Indira.

India has always been an advocate of the Arab cause in the Non-Aligned Movement, whose founders include Gandhi's grandfather Jawaharlal Nehru, and in the United Nations.

Gandhi is expected to reiterate India's support for the Arab cause in the Arab-Israeli conflict and his country's endorsement of the Arab call for an international conference on the Middle East with the participation of all parties involved in the conflict, including the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

Bilateral talks will include an Indian proposal which will primarily aim to reduce Indian trade deficit with Jordan by increasing exports of items like leather goods, textiles and clothes, according to reports.

According to Central Bank fi-

gures quoted by Reuters, Jordanian exports to India were worth JD 11 million in the first 11 months of 1987, compared with JD 32 million in the same period in 1986.

Indian exports to Jordan were worth just over JD 1 million in January to November 1987, down from JD 5 million in the previous year.

Uprising toll rises

(Continued from page 1)

prefer to serve on the more dangerous border with Lebanon than in the occupied territories because there they fight as soldiers rather than as policemen.

Rabin contended that the uprising was not just aimed at ending the 21-year occupation of the West Bank and Gaza, but at "endangering Israel's future, its security."

Rabin said that until a political settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict was achieved, "the solution is to meet violence with violence."

In other developments:

- Police said 15 Jewish graves on the Mount of Olives in Jerusalem were defaced overnight with spray-painted Palestinian flags and slogans of the uprising. No arrests were reported.
- Five Israeli soldiers, among them a woman, were indicted on charges they beat bound Palestinian detainees in March and humiliated them by forcing them to make animal sounds, the Israeli newspaper Yediot Ahronot said.
- At the Zifin army base in central Israel, about 80 Israelis protested the imprisonment of reserve soldiers who were jailed for refusing to serve in the occupied territories. Four soldiers are currently serving jail terms of up to 28 days.
- The demonstrators, members of groups opposed to the occupation, carried placards reading "Refusal to serve is a service for peace" and "Bring our soldiers home."

Iranians pessimistic

(Continued from page 1)

Meanwhile, reports from Dubai said few airlines had changed their flight paths over the Gulf despite the downing of the Airbus.

British Airways and Air France spokesmen said their planes on Far East routes continued to fly over the Strait of Hormuz.

"Our planes fly there at 33,000-37,000 feet (10,000-11,200 metres) and there is absolutely no danger," the British Airways spokesmen said.

"At that height they are never contacted by warships and could not be mistaken for Iranian planes."

The Airbus, heading for Dubai, had left a southern Ira-

nian airport at Bandar Abbas eight minutes before the cruiser Vincennes attacked it when it was at a height of not more than 3,600 metres.

Washington said the cruiser thought the Airbus was an attacking F-14 fighter and tried unsuccessfully to contact it by radio before firing.

Sources at Hong Kong-based Cathay Pacific said their planes had temporarily altered their flight paths between Europe and the Far East by about 20 kilometres to avoid the strait.

Iranair has moved its flight path to Dubai westwards to avoid the strait but airport sources said few other airlines had taken any action.

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AMMAN JORDAN

Canada offers Jordan grant for oil search

By Salameh B. Ne'matt
Jordan Times economics correspondent

AMMAN — The Canadian government has decided to offer Jordan a grant of 13 million Canadian dollars to assist the Kingdom's oil exploration effort, the Canadian embassy confirmed Sunday.

Guill Rishchynski, the embassy's commercial attaché, told the Jordan Times the grant meant an extension of a 19.1 million Canadian dollar (\$14.5 million) assistance programme under an agreement signed in April, 1987.

The additional 13 million will allow 38 Canadians of the Petro Canada International Agency for Cooperation (PCIAC) to continue work through 1989, on seismic exploration activities in the Rishah area north east Jordan.

Rishchynski said the agency, a subsidiary of the state-owned oil company Petro Canada, will also carry out seismic surveys in other areas to be defined later.

"We hope we will continue work on seismic acquisition, interpretation, and interpretation programme," Rishchynski said.

The original agreement signed last year provides for the agency to supply equipment, experts and oil exploration training. The two-year agreement will be amended to include delineation of drilling, while the Natural Resources Authority (NRA) seeks to invite Canadian oil companies to participate in exploration programmes through a production sharing agreement.

NRA Director General Kamal Jreissat was quoted earlier as saying that big oil and gas finds were made following the successful exploitation of the Al Rishah gas fields.

Gas from the Rishah fields is said to be presently used to generate electric energy, which would eventually be linked to the national grid, as well as in helping the country reduce its dependence on imported oil, according to earlier reports.

"According to the geological information, we believe the potential for oil and gas in Jordan is good," Jreissat said in an interview. He said he hoped the project would prompt Canadian oil firms to enter production-sharing deals like those signed with the U.S. companies Hunt and Amoco, and Petrofina of Belgium.

Those agreements, signed over the past three years, allow foreign companies exploring for oil to recover their investments if they find commercial deposits.

CBJ paper shows progress in exports, monetary issues

AMMAN (J.T.) — A working paper prepared by the Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ) reveals that Jordan's exports of phosphate, potash and fertilisers in the past year accounted for 48 per cent of the total Jordanian exports.

Jordan's exports of food supplies and live animals accounted for 14 per cent of the total exports while nearly 53 per cent of Jordan's national exports went to Arab countries, according to the paper which will be presented to the fourth Jordanian Exports Congress due to open in Amman Monday.

The working paper deals with the economic developments in Jordan during 1987 and said that the average gross domestic product (GDP) was around three per cent. But the paper also refers to the population growth, the labour market and the educational systems as well.

It said that the East Bank's current population is nearly 2.9 million and that the annual population growth rate stands at 3.9 per cent.

With reference to the labour market, the paper estimated that in 1987 the country's workforce was 658,000 of whom 103,000 were non-Jordanians while Jordanians working abroad were estimated at 330,000.

ANNOUNCEMENT FOR SUBMISSION PROPOSAL TO CHILDREN SOCIAL RECREATION CENTRE AT KING ABDULLAH IBN AL HUSSEIN COMPLEX & PUBLIC PARK PROJECT

The joint Committee of the Amman Development Corporation (ADC) and the General Union of Voluntary Societies invites qualified Jordanian and international contractors who are experts and specialised in supplying, erecting and installing equipment for children social recreation centre and luna parks to submit their proposals according to one or more of the following options:

1. An offer for execution.
2. An offer for execution and financing showing method and period of repayment of the loan from the generated income.
3. An offer for execution, financing and management.
4. An offer for execution, financing and operation.
5. An offer for management only against a percentage of the profits or a fixed annual amount.

Starting Monday 11/7/1988, copies of the proposal documents and drawings may be obtained from ADC's offices located at the 8th floor of the Shabsough Complex downtown during working hours, and against JD 100,000 non-refundable for each copy of the proposal documents and drawings.

All proposals are to be accompanied by a bank guarantee or a certified cheque of (JD 10,000,000) ten thousand Jordanian dinars, together with a certificate of registration issued by the Jordan Contractors' Association, which proves that the Jordanian tenderer is a practising contractor in civil works.

Proposals are to be handed over to the General Union of Societies in their offices in Jabal Al Weibdeh not later than Saturday noon (12:00), 10/9/1988.

All international contractors are to submit their proposals on a joint-venture basis.

The General Union of Societies and Amman Development Corporation are not bound to accept the lowest prices.

For further information please contact:
Amman Development Corporation
P.O. Box 926621
Tel. 629471/629482
Tlx. 22133 A.D.C. JO
Amman - Jordan.

OR
The General Union of Voluntary Societies
Tel. 630398/634001
Tlx. 23589 NECCRW / JO.

Joint committee representing
Amman Development Corporation
& the General Union of Societies

Jordan Finance House for Development and Investment reports lower net profit

By Shafi Nicholas

Special to the Jordan Times
AMMAN — The Jordan Finance House for Development and Investment reported more than a 30 per cent decline in its 1987 net profit which stood at JD 54,508 compared to JD 171,283 at the end of 1986.

As a result, the company did not allocate any dividends to shareholders.

Since 1982, dividends at the rate of seven per cent were only distributed in 1984 and 1985 when net profit before taxes amounted to JD 540,000 and JD 653,000 respectively.

According to the balance sheet and the profit and loss statement published in the Arabic newspapers, the following are the major points of the company's operations during 1987:

1) Total earnings amounted to JD 616,928 at the end of last year compared to JD 779,877 at the end of 1986.

2) Expenses totalled JD 562,420 at the end of 1987 against JD 608,594 at the end of 1986.

3) Deposits (from banks and public) stood at JD 5,379,636 compared to JD 3,448,463 in 1986.

4) "Investment financing" or credit facilities increased from JD 6,208,814 in 1986 to JD 6,542,503 in 1987.

5) Cash and deposits at banks shot up from JD 3,059,867 to JD 4,874,628.

6) Investments in shares totalled JD 767,259, down from JD 793,294 at the end of 1986. A reserve for share-price fluctuations stood at JD 230,523.

The board of directors of the Jordan Finance House for Development and Investment has agreed in principle to merge the company with other financial institutions and is currently working on measures to achieve the merger which is likely to be announced this summer.

Ibrahim takes over CAEU's top post

AMMAN (Petra, J.T.) — Hassan Ibrahim, former Jordanian minister who was recently appointed as Council of Arab Economic Unity (CAEU) secretary-general was Sunday sworn in for the post before Industry, Trade and Supply Minister Hamdi Tabbaa in his capacity as representative of Jordan, the CAEU's host country.

Ibrahim was chosen for the post at last week's CAEU's meeting to succeed Hani Khasawneh, minister of information who had resigned the post after receiving his ministerial portfolio.

In a statement to the Jordan News Agency, Petra, Tabbaa said that Ibrahim's election to the post emphasises Jordan's solid stand in support of joint Arab action and reflects Arab countries' confidence in this country and their determination to promote the work of Arab League organisations in a bid to enhance Arab economy.

Tabbaa wished the new CAEU's secretary-general success in his mission.

For his part, Ibrahim made a statement expressing his determination to exert efforts designed to bolster economic integration among Arab states in implementation and within the framework of the CAEU's agreement.

Ibrahim, who assumed his post Sunday, was given the post at the CAEU's 49th meeting during which Arab delegates discussed financial and organisational conditions of Arab League organisations and adopted measures to merge a number of them, to cancel others and to set up new organisations.

This step was taken in implementation of recommendations by an eight-member ministerial committee with a view to reviving the work of financially-bankrupt Arab organisations.

Ibrahim later visited the CAEU's headquarters in Amman and met with the staff. He said at a meeting that Jordan's confidence in the Arab League organisations will prompt him to exert all his efforts to promote the CAEU's work and implement its earlier resolutions.

The recent CAEU's resolutions adopted by the Arab ministers of economy and finance, Ibrahim said, will serve as guidelines for his new task.

Coca-Cola penetrates Arab markets despite ban

BAHRAIN (R) — A 20-year-old Arab boycott of soft drinks giant Coca-Cola is cracking despite refusal of the Arab League to remove it from its blacklist of those who have had dealing with Israel.

A television advertising campaign has launched Coca-Cola in Bahrain, while bottling and canning plants are opening up in Gulf states.

But the Atlanta-based multinational's return to the lucrative Arab market, where Cola sales are estimated at five billion bottles a year, has provoked an angry response from the Arab League's Israel Boycott Office in Damascus.

"We make decisions but we do not implement them — Arab governments should do so," the office's Commissioner General Zuhair Adil told Reuters in Damascus.

"Our decisions are political decisions, they represent the Arab Nation's decisions," he said.

Saudi Arabia, with an estimated population of 10 million would be the jewel in Coca-Cola's Arab crown.

But the real question is whether the kingdom bucks or backs the Damascus decision, said a Gulf-based industry analyst. Coca-Cola's main competitor Pepsi-Cola now has a major share of the lucrative Saudi Arabian market.

Coca-Cola Co's drive into Middle East markets flies in the face of June's Arab summit in Algiers where beads of state agreed to uphold boycotts as a weapon in the Arab World's fight against its arch enemy Israel.

The Damascus office last week lifted the boycott of 22 companies, but decided to renew the ban on Coca-Cola, saying it provided "economic aid to Israel."

for 10 days now.

"The Gulf nations appear to have taken a different view (to the boycott office) and obviously we are hoping they will continue to do so," the spokesman in London added.

A bottling plant in the UAE at Al Ain, an oasis city near the border with Oman, is due to open in early 1989, said Robert Thomas, Coca-Cola's representative in Abu Dhabi.

Canning at the moment is carried out in Oman, which is also supplying Bahrain.

"The Damascus decision has no effect on our plans," said Thomas, since the UAE government had already given the go-ahead for the factory.

The boycott office's Akil said the Al Ain plant would be a "clear violation" of the decision to uphold the Coca-Cola ban.

Industry sources said a 500,000-dinar (\$1.3 million) bottling plant is also being planned for Bahrain.

A spokesman at Coca-Cola's Middle East operational headquarters in London said: "Obviously we are disappointed that we are still blacklisted."

But he added governments appeared to be adhering less to the boycott and Coca-Cola now did business with 11 Arab countries — more than half the number in the Arab League.

It received permission to sell in Bahrain a few weeks ago and has been in the shops on the island

for 10 days now.

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SPORTS IN BRIEF

Dalbey upsets Biondi in 100-m swimming

SANTA CLARA, California (R) — World record holder Matt Biondi was surprised by fellow-American Troy Dalbey in the men's 100-metre freestyle Saturday at the Santa Clara invitational swimming meet. Dalbey defeated Biondi with a time of 51.37 seconds — a new meet record, but more than two seconds slower than Biondi's world record time. "It's always a big deal when you have the chance to beat Matt," said the 19-year-old Dalbey. "Matt now has to think about me (as competition). I think about him every day." In women's competition, Mitzi Kremer continued her fast-paced preparation for the Olympic trials by setting meet records in the 100 and 400-metre freestyle events. Kremer, 20, crushed Cynthia Woodhead's 1979 record in winning the 100 with a time of 56.70 seconds, and then broke a 10-year meet record in the 400 with a time of 4:13.37.

Amateur boxer Watts dies after sparring

LAS VEGAS, Nevada (AP) — Amateur boxer Harold Watts, who suffered a brain injury during a sparring session with professional Jeff Franklin, died Saturday morning, University Medical Center officials said. Watts, 24, of Las Vegas, suffered a ruptured blood vessel over the surface of his brain Thursday afternoon, Dr. Lonnie Hammargren said. Hammargren operated on Watts Thursday night and said he had "the classic boxing injury for fighters who die of blood clots on the brain." Hammargren declared Watts brain dead Friday night. "The pressure inside his head was seven times normal," Hammargren said. Life support systems were removed and Watts was declared dead at 7:40 a.m. (1440 GMT), nursing supervisor Geneva Faile said. Watts took a sharp hit on the chin during the sparring session and collapsed about 30 seconds later, Hammargren said.

Mills, Hayden dominate gymnastics events

HOUSTON (AP) — Phoebe Mills, with crowd-pleasing performances on the floor exercise and balance beam, pulled away to win the women's all-around title in the United States Gymnastics Championships Saturday night. Mills, who won the American Cup all-around title earlier this year, scored a 9.85 in the floor exercise and had a 9.8 in the balance beam. Dan Hayden held off rallying Kevin Davis with high scores in still rings and parallel bars to win the men's all-around title earlier Saturday. Hayden, of New York, failed to make the 1984 Olympic team. His 116.85 score leads 18 men into the Olympic trials at Salt Lake City. Mills, with a commanding leading going into her final event, had a 9.85 floor exercise to finish with 77.86 total score.

Soviets reserve Olympic basketball berth

ROTTERDAM (R) — The Soviet Union assured themselves victory and a ticket to the Seoul Olympics after crushing Spain 129-82 in the sixth round of the European men's Olympic basketball qualification tournament Saturday. But Italy jeopardised their qualification when they were beaten 91-88 by European champions Greece and faced the tough task of seeking victory over the Soviet Union in their last match Sunday. Italy dropped to third in the standings of the eight-nation Round-Robin series behind the Soviet Union and Yugoslavia, who beat France 104-81. Italy are equal on points with Spain. Three countries qualify for Seoul. The Soviets continued to dominate the tournament, maintaining their 100 per cent record with panache and scoring 53 baskets in 70 attempts.

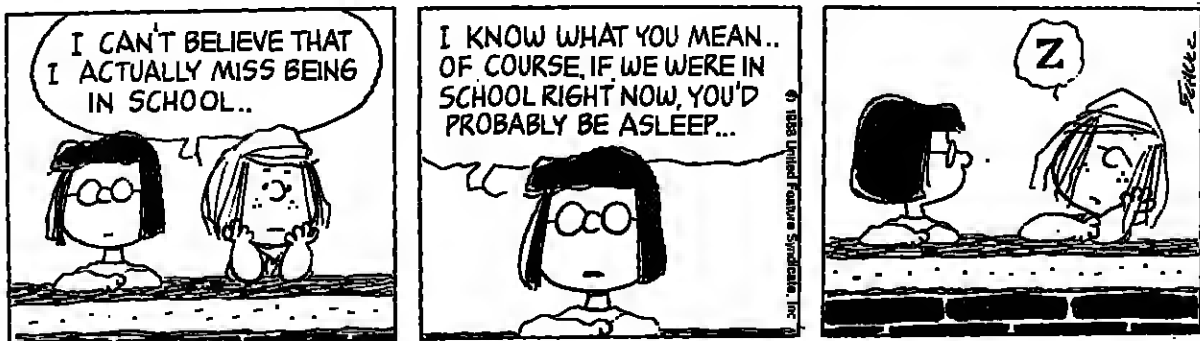
THE BETTER HALF.

By Harris



"Oh, he still gives me little love bites — but now he puts ketchup on them first."

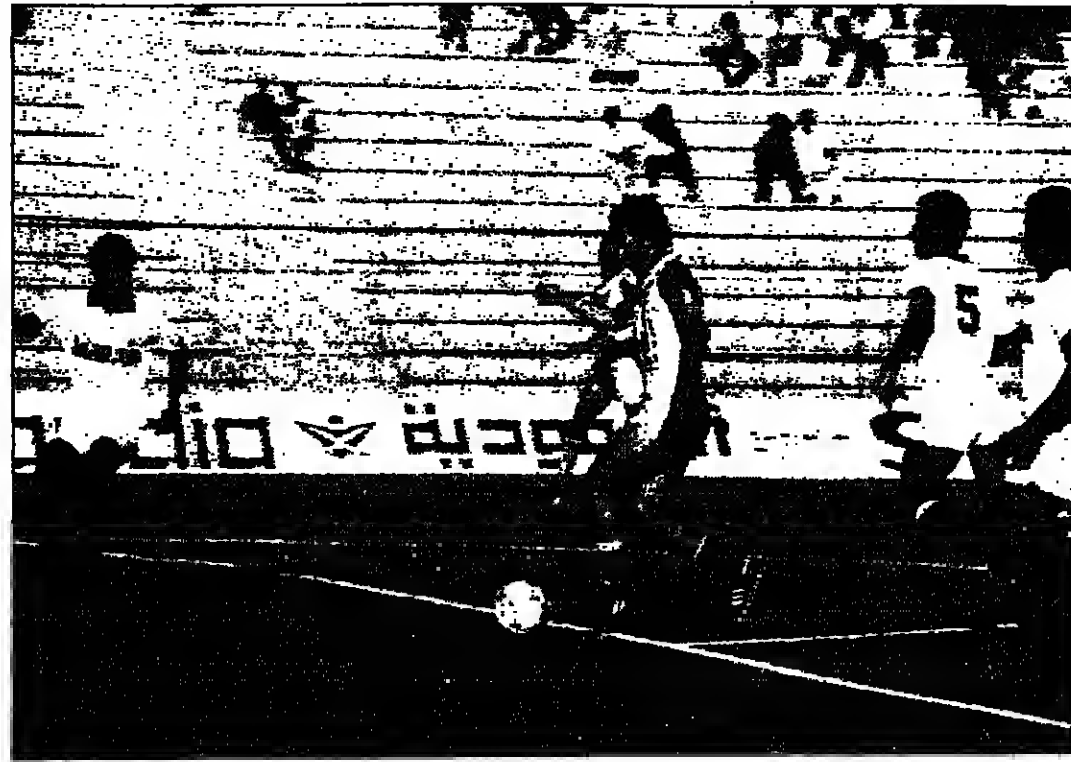
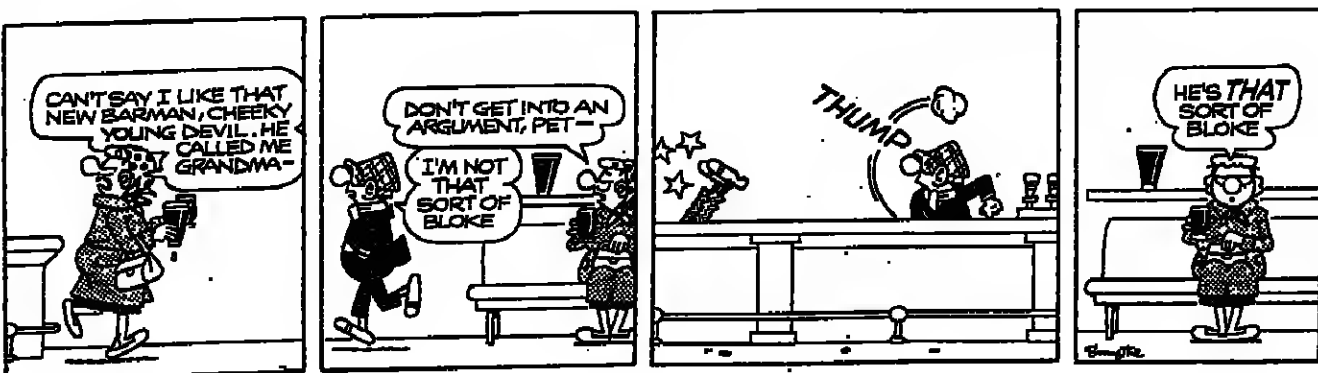
Peanuts



Mutt'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



Rashid Hamada of Algeria moves ahead with the defence approach to save their net (Photo by Issa Othman).

Graf clinches Osaka tennis title

OSAKA, Japan (R) — Steffi Graf followed up her Wimbledon triumph with a storming victory in the \$200,000 Yokohama-Osaka Tennis Championships when she crushed second seed Manuela Maleeva of Bulgaria 6-0, 6-0 in the final Sunday.

The top-seeded West German needed just 44 minutes to clinch the title in her first tournament since she captured the Wimbledon crown.

Graf played almost flawless tennis, exploiting every inch of the court with probing forehands, delicate drop shots and sliced backhands.

World number six Maleeva played below her usual consistent standards, hitting 24 unforced errors on her backhand and 16 on her forehand.

"I did not expect such an easy game," Graf said. "She had a lot of problems with my sliced shots and she also made some very easy errors."

Maleeva tried to lure Graf into long rallies from the baseline, but the champion turned most exchanges into a one-way traffic of winners.

If Graf had a weakness it was on her backhand where she struck 15 unforced errors. "I think this is the worst type of surface for Maleeva," Graf said of the synthetic surface of this indoor stadium. "It is too slow for her."

Mayotte topples Connors

In the men's final Tim Mayotte vanquished top-seeded fellow-American Jimmy Connors in a hard-fought 6-4, 3-6, 6-4 duel.

Mayotte, ranked 15th in the world against Connors' fifth, kept cool despite failing to convert four match-points when he was leading 5-2 in the final set.

Connors won the next two games but his comeback fizzled out when Mayotte blasted three cross-court forehands to end the match after two hours and 37

minutes. Mayotte, known as "the gentleman" of tennis because of his impeccable behaviour on court, served seven aces, while Connors served none.

Connors, 36 in September, played his usual aggressive game but hit 71 unforced errors and three double-faults.

Duncan meets Muster in U.S. pro tennis

In Boston, Lawson Duncan beat Horacio de la Pena in straight sets Saturday to reach the final of the \$415,000 U.S. Pro Tennis Championships and then promptly pronounced the title was as good as his.

"I'll say right now I'll beat the guy (Thomas Muster)," Duncan said after his 6-4, 6-2 win over the unseeded Argentine. "I'll definitely win because this is my tournament."

The eighth-seeded Muster earlier won the last 11 games of his semifinal against Bruno Oresar of Yugoslavia to take a 7-5, 6-0 victory.

Duncan said the upcoming final was a "revenge match" for his 6-0, 6-0 whitewashing at the hands of the Austrian in the Tournament of Champions in May.

Cawley inducted into Tennis Hall of Fame

In Newport, Rhode Island, Evonne Goolagong Cawley of Australia, who brought a mixture of grace and charisma to the game, was enroled Saturday as 1988's lone inductee to the Tennis Hall of Fame at the Newport Casino.

"It's kind of special and also a little frightening to be the only inductee," said Cawley, 36. "But it is a thrill for my family."

Aouita stomps to 1500 metres victory

LONDON (R) — Morocco's world record holder Said Aouita swept to his second 1,500 metres victory in four days Friday when he outclassed the opposition at the London Grand Prix athletics meeting.

Aouita, who won his first major 1,500 of the season in Stockholm Tuesday, appeared trapped as the field went into the final lap.

He wove his way out of the pack but was still forced to run wide with 200 metres to go and was unable to start his run for home until near the final bend.

But the 27-year-old then made the good-class opposition look second-rate as he lengthened his stride and flew down the outside.

Veteran American Steve Scott had positioned himself perfectly on the final bend but he had no

answer to Aouita's blistering finish.

Aouita, who runs again over 1,500 at the Nice Grand Prix Sunday clocked three minutes 36.50 seconds while Scott finished second in 3:36.76.

Aouita said he was very happy with his form since returning to competition this week after an injury layoff.

New Zealand's 36-year-old John Walker pulled up on the back straight of the third lap and limped off the track.

In the men's 100 metres Britain's European champion Linford Christie scored his first win over Nigerian Chidi Imoh in seven encounters.

Christie, running in a green cold-weather suit which covered most of his upper body, clocked 10.25 seconds while Imoh was timed in 10.27.

Bile avenges Dream Mile defeat

Earlier, Somalia's world 1,500 metres champion Abdi Bile out-sprinted Britain's Steve Cram over 1,000 metres Friday to snatch sweet revenge for his defeat in last Saturday's Dream Mile in Oslo.

The final 100 metres looked to be a replay of Dream Mile as Bile raced down the outside and Cram surged through on the inside.

But this time it was Bile who was the stronger, raising his arms in triumph as he crossed the line less than a metre ahead of the European and Commonwealth 1,500 metres champion.

Bile clocked two minutes 17.75 seconds, Cram was timed at 2:17.80 and Britain's world 800 metres silver medalist Peter Elliott finished third in 2:17.90.

To underscore the depth of talent in the East German discus team, Ilka Wyndra bettered her junior world record with 72.24 metres.

Algeria, Bahrain tie 0-0 in Arab soccer match

By Sa'ad G. Hattar
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Algeria and Bahrain failed to break the "draw streak" Sunday evening, the third day of the Fifth Arab Soccer Championship. Both teams shared one point each in match drawn (0-0). The second half broke a virtually "sedate" and dull first half.

The Algerians and the Bahrainis each gained one point raising to two their respective overall score. Bahrain drew (0-0) Friday against Jordan in Group B and Algeria tied Syria (1-1) Sunday within the same group.

Both the Algerian and the Bahraini teams played rather cautiously in the first half, which lacked skilful manoeuvring and successful endings for both sides.

The course of events, however,

changed positively at the outset of the second half and the Algerians maintained superiority through successive attacks but failed to "rock" the Bahraini net. The Bahraini retreated to defence positions and made reluctant efforts to fend off their opponents thrust.

The 4th match Saturday evening also ended in a draw. Iraq scored in the first half and Tunisia in the second.

The meet sealed a series of

similar draws that characterised the ten-country tournament which began here Friday evening.

Both teams, qualifiers for Seoul Olympic soccer playoffs, displayed a thrilling performance, that gives a clear signal that they could be the potential finalists.

The Iraqis, reigning champions of the 4th Arab Cup held in Taef, Saudi Arabia in 1985, controlled the field from the outset of a seemingly upbeat heat, equally controlled by both sides. The Tunisians regained control in the 2nd half and scored the equaliser in the 62nd minute. The Iraqi striker Ahmad Radi scored in the 32nd minute with a header from a cross by Ghaleb Halabi.

After doggedly pressuring the Tunisians throughout the first half, the Tunisians unleashed their forwards and pressured their opponents into the defence zone for most of the 2nd half.

Italian takes 7th stage of Tour de France

REIMS, France (R) — Dutchman Jelle Nijdam increased his Tour de France lead here Saturday, after being deposed temporarily on the 225-kilometre stage from Wasquehal to the Champagne City of Reims.

He started the day with a one-second lead over Canadian Steve Bauer and resumes racing Sunday with an advantage of nine seconds.

But for more than 200 kilometres Saturday Italian Valerio Tebaldi and Frenchman Philippe Casado became the centre of attention by taking a lead of more than 15 minutes.

For some time Casado assumed the yellow jersey position but after 115 kilometres Nijdam's teammates reacted and reduced the lead of the front pair.

The Italian, a late replacement for the tour, outwitted Casado in the last two kilometres to win the stage by six seconds.

Casado said: "Another chance to win a tour stage might not come my way too soon. It's so

disappointing."

Tebaldi, like Casado, contesting his first Tour de France, wept as he mounted the winner's podium in Reims. "I am very tired, but very happy," he said.

Nijdam gained eight seconds with his placings in the intermediate sprints, worth overall time deductions. It was all that was left to him after Tebaldi was joined by Casado in the move of the day.

Ireland's Sean Kelly finished fifth after Friday's disappointing showing in the time trial won by Britain's Sean Yates.

Kelly slipped another eight seconds behind Nijdam, and finished 13th overall, one minute and 53 seconds adrift.

Crashes again marred the race. French favourite Jean-Francois Bernard escaped serious injury when he fell, and soon returned to the head of the main pack.

Ricardo Martinez, of Spain, was not so fortunate. When a large group of riders later spilled off the road into a field, he came off worse, and retired with an elbow injury.

Brazil and Argentina draw in Gold Cup match

MELBOURNE (R) — Brazil and Argentina, World Cup champions past and present, fought out a goalless draw in the Bicentennial Gold Cup tournament Sunday which put Brazil in line for the final.

Six players were booked, mostly for wild tackles, on a rain-affected pitch at Olympic Park. Brazil moved a point clear at the top of the table, ahead of

Australia and Argentina, who meet in Sydney next Thursday with the Argentines needing victory because the Australians have the better goal average.

Brazil, who beat Australia 1-0 last Thursday, face last-placed Saudi Arabia in their final Round-Robin series match in Melbourne Tuesday and look assured of a place in Sunday's final in Sydney.

Brazil and Argentina, who were held to a 2-2 draw by Saudi Arabia last Wednesday, both concentrated on denying the opposition, and the emphasis on defence meant there were few scoring chances.

Argentina pressed for the first 20 minutes but then had to fall back as the Brazilians moved forward with brilliant short-passing movements.

Jose Rodriguez had a chance to put Argentina in front in the 28th minute but his header flew over the bar.

Fellow striker Hernan Diaz blazed over the top eight minutes into the second half but that was Argentina's last attempt.

Tireless Brazilian winger Valdo tested the Argentine defence, linking with strikers Romario and Muller and overlapping defender Jorginho.

Kelly said the league's new proposal would ensure that the top clubs gained "substantially more in the long run" from BBC and satellite company package than from the Independent Television (ITV) deal.

The proposal will go before an extraordinary meeting of all 92 clubs Friday — two days after the rebel group are scheduled to meet ITV.

Taylor said the top clubs appeared to have only self-interest in mind.

INVITATION FOR PREQUALIFICATION LOW INCOME AREA SEWERAGE NETWORKS IN AQABA CONTRACT AQ - S1

The Government Tenders Directorate invites the contractors from member countries of the World Bank, Switzerland, Taiwan-China, and Jordanian contractors who have been prequalified by the Ministry of Public Works as first class for water and sewerage projects who wish to be prequalified for the construction of low income area sewerage networks in Aqaba contract (AQ - S1) financed by the World Bank.

The contract consist of the supply and installation of sewerage networks of various diameters in low income area, commercial area, Ports Corporation housing in Aqaba.

The International Federation of Consulting Engineers prequalification form is obtainable from the Government Tenders Directorate at the Ministry of Public Works for a non-refundable sum of JD 25.

The sealed envelope containing the fully completed form along with any other supporting documents are due at the office of the director of the Government Tenders Directorate not later than 12 noon Jordan local time on Saturday 30/7/1988.

Director,
The Government Tenders Directorate

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Lithuanians rally in support of Armenian demands

MOSCOW (R) — A huge rally in the Lithuanian capital of Vilnius has called on the Soviet authorities to hold a referendum on self-determination in the disputed region of Nagorno-Karabakh more than 1,600 kilometres away, Lithuanian sources said Sunday.

The official TASS news agency said 100,000 people gathered in Vilnius Saturday evening for a rally called by the Initiative Group in support of perestroika, a non-official front formed recently to promote Kremlin reform.

Vytautas Bogusis, a Lithuanian activist, told Reuters by telephone from Vilnius that the Initiative Group read out a memorandum suggesting that Armenians in Nagorno-Karabakh, an Azerbaijani region, vote on self-determination in a referendum. "The crowd voted unanimously in favour of this," he said. "The

memorandum will be sent to the Soviet government."

Ethnic Armenians form 75 per cent of Nagorno-Karabakh's population. Their demand that the region be transferred from Azerbaijan to Armenian administration has sparked five months of ethnic turmoil in which at least 56 people have died.

In the Armenian capital of Yerevan, troops were sent in twice last week as residents declared a general strike, shut down the city airport for two days setting off clashes in which a youth was shot dead, and held a mass protest on Opera Square.

Armenian interior ministry officials contacted Sunday refused to say whether the troops were still patrolling Yerevan. They said the atmosphere in the city was normal.

A ministry spokesman said there were neither soldiers nor residents on Opera Square, which was sealed off by troops Saturday as the strike continued in all but a few factories.

The newspaper Sotsialisticheskaya Industriya said the strike had spread from Yerevan to other Armenian cities including Leninakan, Kirovakan and Abovyan. It said only food industries, transport and 24-hour-a-day plants were working in the capital.

Since the strike began Monday, the Soviet authorities have launched an information campaign on the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict and taken steps apparently aimed at appeasing Armenian anger



over the Kremlin's refusal to redraw the borders.

A 90-minute television documentary portraying the dispute in deadlock between Armenians and Azerbaijanis was followed by a special report Saturday on an incident in which 47 women were poisoned last month at an Armenian garment factory.

The striking Armenians had demanded full information on the June 23 poisoning episode in the town of Masis, south of Yerevan, following rumours that Azerbaijanis were responsible.

Weather, flames force Adair off Piper Alpha

ABERDEEN, Scotland (AP) — American oil troubleshooter Paul "Red" Adair boarded the burned-out Piper Alpha oil rig at dawn Sunday but was forced off by bad weather and a surge of flames from one of its wells, Occidental Petroleum Corporation said.

"Because of the weather, he has had to come back on to Tharos," said a spokesman for Occidental, the Los Angeles-based owners of the rig.

"When he boarded this morning (Sunday), a well flared up and this was also another reason for him to return," said the spokesman who declined to be identified.

Adair, 73, and two assistants were transferred to the platform in a basket swung over by a crane

from Tharos, a semi-submersible rig they have used as a temporary base while assessing damage to Piper Alpha. The Occidental spokesman could not say how long the trio was aboard the rig.

An explosion, followed by fire, ripped through the oil rig Wednesday, killing 166 people. Sixty-four oil workers escaped into the North Sea and were rescued alive.

Wind in the area, 180 kilometres off Scotland's east coast, rose to 25 knots Sunday and whipped up waves, making it difficult for Adair's workers to clear debris from the site of the world's worst oilfield disaster, the Occidental spokesman said.

Adair still must cap the still-leaking oil wells.

Divers and rescue crews will not be sent to search for 149 missing men until after the debris is cleared and the wells capped. Occidental executive John Brading told a news conference Saturday.

Brading, chief executive of Occidental International Oil Company, estimated it may be three weeks before the bodies are recovered. But Adair could not estimate how long his work would last.

Asked for his assessment of the damage, Adair said: "It's really hard to tell. There appears to be quite a bit of damage, but what we're doing right now is clearing the upper deck so we can look below and see what the wells look like."

Army launches flood rescue operations in Bangladesh

DHAKA, Bangladesh (AP) — Army troops began a massive rescue and relief operation Sunday as flood waters continued to devastate eastern and northern districts, official reports said.

The unofficial death toll, meanwhile, rose to 121 Sunday, with six more deaths reported in Habiganj and Comilla districts in the east.

A senior official at the relief ministry, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said troops and

civilians were helping move millions of marooned people to safer ground. At least five million have been affected by the floods.

Rescue operations have been slowed in the northeastern district of Sunamganj because roads have been flooded.

Helicopters have no dry place to land and heavy rains had made dropping of food packets nearly impossible, the official said.

Khmer Rouge agrees to dissolve itself

BANGKOK (AP) — The Khmer Rouge regime has agreed to dissolve itself as part of a settlement of the Kampuchean war, Kampuchean resistance leader Prince Norodom Sihanouk was quoted as saying.

Sihanouk was quoted by a resistance radio broadcast as saying Khieu Samphan, the Khmer Rouge's nominal leader, gave him the assurance late last month. The secretive Khmer Rouge has not previously clearly spelled out its position.

The Khmer Rouge regime of Prime Minister Pol Pot, which ruled Kampuchea from 1975 to 1978, set up a vast network of slave labour camps and execution chambers in which hundreds of

thousands of people died before Vietnamese troops invaded and ousted the regime. Western estimates have said as many as 2 million died.

The Khmer Rouge then joined Sihanouk and Son Sann in an anti-Vietnamese guerrilla coalition, which currently is debating settlement as Vietnam proceeds with its announced withdrawal of some 140,000 troops.

"Previously, Khieu Samphan said the Phnom Penh regime should be dissolved but not his," Sihanouk said during a visit to his base on the Thai-Kampuchean border on June 29. "Two days ago he came to see me and said he agreed that the two regimes should be dissolved."

Pakistan senators call for elections

ISLAMABAD (AP) — Members of the Pakistani Senate Sunday demanded immediate elections, criticising President Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq for dissolving the national assembly and dismissing the civilian cabinet.

"President Zia should not play with the constitution," Senator Khurshid Ahmed said on the opening day of the Senate, the upper house of the parliament, which was not dissolved.

The Senate met for the first time after Zia dissolved the national assembly — the powerful lower house of the parliament — May 29.

Zia also has dismissed his civilian Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo and his 33-member cabinet the same day on charges of corruption, incompetence, and failure to speedily introduce Islam, and prevent breakdown of law and order.

The Senators protesting Zia's actions challenged these steps and charged Zia of "insulting the entire parliament," and bringing "parliamentary and democratic institutions into disrepute," by making false allegations of corruption against the assembly members.

Junejo also has called Zia's actions as "arbitrary" and accused the president of "disrupting the democratic process which was smoothly underway" after eight years of martial law during which the president ruled the country up to 1985.

All the senators demanded elections be held within 90 days of the dissolution of the assembly as the constitution provides, which means by August 27.

Although Zia originally indicated he may hold the polls by 90 days, he has remained silent on the subject and refused to set the polls' date so far, in spite of demands by all political parties.

China's 1st beer festival

HARBIN, China (R) — Brewers and beer-lovers from overseas and all over China converged on this north-east China city Sunday for the country's first international beer festival. Firecrackers popped and brass bands played "The Mexican Hat Dance" and "Yankee Doodle Dandy". Loudspeakers blared the merits of rival brews and elegant women clad in long, tight, traditional dresses poured endless glasses of frothy lager.

"We want this to become a Chinese Oktoberfest, like the one in Munich," said festival organiser Li Chunren, head of the Local Writers and Entrepreneurs Association. "But we realise we still have a way to go."

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Thieves return stolen goods

TREVISO, Italy (AP) — Thieves returned a ring and a bracelet that belonged to the victim's dead daughter and admonished the woman in a message Saturday to take better care of her precious belongings, the television network Antenna Tre said. Elena Torressan made a televised appeal on the network after the June 30 theft of the jewellery that belonged to her 15-year-old daughter Nadia, who was killed in a car accident last year. "We're sending you the treasured possessions of Nadia. Next time take better care of them," the thieves said in a message sent with the jewellery to the network at Treviso, 30 kilometres west of Venice.

Reagan invites Hill storytellers

WASHINGTON (AP) — With First Lady Nancy Reagan out of town, President Ronald Reagan knew that to do for a good time, invitations went out to some of the best storytellers on Capitol Hill for an evening of "yarn swapping" at the White House. "He just wanted to have the boys come in, have dinner, and have a bull session," Alabama Senator Howell Heflin said Saturday. "Most of it was just levity and jokes. It was just sort of a night out with the boys." Mrs. Reagan was in New York to meet with her publisher, Random House, about plans to write her memoirs. Democrat Heflin was one of six legislators who shared their best stories with President Reagan during a four-hour session Friday night in the president's private quarters at the White House. And what were some of those best stories? "That's one thing there's a pledge of secrecy on," Heflin said.

Nielsen leaves lasting impression

NEW YORK (AP) — Actress Brigitte Nielsen and New York Jets' defensive lineman Mark Gastineau have split up, but they can't leave behind one memento of their six-month engagement. They each have a tattoo of the other's name on their bottoms. Nielsen and Gastineau called it quits because their career demands made a "stable and long-lasting relationship" impossible, said her publicist, Joel Brokaw.

Mechanic finds snake in car

DANVERS, Massachusetts (AP) — When mechanic Brian Pelletier began to check out a customer's car to see what was wrong with the air-conditioning, he found a one-metre-long Boa Constrictor behind the dashboard. "I was laying right there on the floor, unscrewed the dash, and all of a sudden I looked over and six inches from my head there was this snake," said Pelletier, 45, an auto mechanic for 25 years. "I was going to retire in three years, but I think this will move it up."

Tiger attacks woman

BOTHELL, Washington (AP) — A woman was critically injured when a tiger attacked her after she fell during a filming session for the Boeing company at a Wild Game Farm, authorities said. Clara Froberg, 40, was listed in critical condition Saturday at Evergreen hospital in Kirkland following surgery for severe wounds to the head, neck and shoulder. The owner of animal advocates Wild Game Farm, Anne Gordon, said Froberg had been working as a volunteer at a month. Boeing needed footage of a tiger running through tall grass. The tiger named Sultan, was to be unleashed by an assistant and run to Gordon, who was holding food, for the filming. Volunteers held portable fencing to help corral the animal.

WORLD NEWS IN BRIEF

Solidarity Union praises Gorbachev

WARSAW (AP) — The Solidarity Trade Union Saturday praised the reform policies of Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, saying Gorbachev's upcoming six-day visit may lead to significant changes in Poland. "Solidarity, supporting the fight for human rights all over the world, in the East and West, is watching the changes in the USSR with hope," the famed union's National Executive Commission said in a statement issued from Gdansk. Gorbachev arrives in Poland Monday for a state visit and a two-day meeting of Warsaw Pact country leaders July 15-16.

2 killed in Tamil attack

COLOMBO (R) — Tamil rebels killed two passengers and wounded 15, including five Indian soldiers, in a bus ambush in northern Sri Lanka, witnesses said. They said Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam guerrillas attacked the bus carrying some 40 passengers from the Jaffna peninsula to Mullaitivu in the north-east at Anandapura Saturday. Witnesses told reporters the bus driver drove to the nearest hospital without stopping. There were 20 soldiers on the bus but they did not return fire. Indian and Sri Lankan military officials said they were not aware of the incident. Indian Forces are in the north and east of the island to enforce last July's India-Sri Lanka peace accord to end a Tamil separatist campaign. The Tigers oppose the pact.

B1 bomber beset with flaws

WASHINGTON (AP) — New tests show the B1 bomber's electronic warfare system has design flaws that could prevent the U.S. air force from using it as planned for a possible attack on the Soviet Union, according to a published report. The Washington Post, in its Sunday editions, said the flaws detected in the tests could force the U.S. Department of Defence to reroute possible bombing runs through the Soviet Union in the event of nuclear war. The newspaper cited Defence Department sources and an internal congressional document written by House of Representatives Armed Services Committee Chairman Les Aspin, who received a classified air force briefing late last week on the problems.

Carlucci names officials to study fraud

PHILADELPHIA (R) — Defence Secretary Frank Carlucci said Saturday he has named two former high-ranking defence officials to review evidence of mismanagement in the Pentagon procurement probe. The Pentagon is investigating allegations of fraud and kickbacks which may extend to as many as 100 defence contracts worth tens of billions of dollars. Carlucci told the World Affairs Council here he has appointed former Defence Secretary Donald Rumsfeld and David Packard, head of a 1985 Defence Management Commission, to review the evidence.

3,000 bury policemen in Manila

MANILA (AP) — Some 3,000 mourners, mostly policemen and anti-communist vigilantes, marched through Manila's streets Sunday to bury two officers and vow to hunt down the communist rebels blamed for the slayings. The funeral came a day after communist rebels blamed President Corason Aquino for the upsurge in attacks by right-wing death squads on leftist and human rights activists, and pledged reprisals against lawmen "to account for these crimes." Mourners chanted "death to communists, death to the sparrows," referring to the urban-based communist liquidation squads. They marched along a 4-kilometre route from the Manila police headquarters to two suburban cemeteries. The policemen were gunned down June 5 in one of Manila's busiest streets in a broad daylight attack by five suspected rebels.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
AND OMAR SHARIF
1987 Tribune Media Services, Inc.

BLOCKED TO ADVANTAGE

East-West vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH ♠ K 9 7 6 4 2
♥ K 7 3
♦ 8 6 4
♣ A Q

WEST ♠ A 3
♥ J 10 9 7 4 2
♦ 10 8 6
♣ K 10 9

EAST ♠ Q 8 5 3
♥ Q 8 5 3
♦ J 9 5 4 2
♣ A Q

SOUTH ♠ Q J 10 8 5
♥ A Q
♦ J 7 5 3 2
♣ A Q

The bidding:
South West North East
1 ♠ Pass 4 ♠ Pass
Pass Pass

Opening lead: Jack of

There is a tendency to concede to the defenders those tricks you feel you have to lose. However, on occasion you may be able to avoid losing a trick. It was by no means obvious how to accomplish that on this hand from a team-of-four match.

At both tables a four-spade contract was reached in quick time, and at both the opening lead was the jack of hearts. One declarer went down quickly. After winning the ace of hearts, he led a trump. West won and found the club shift. East took his two club tricks and exited with a

diamond, and declarer eventually had to concede a third club for down one.

At the other table, declarer saw that the club he was missing the three top clubs might be turned to his advantage. If either defender held two of them bare, the suit would be blocked and an end play could be engineered.

After winning the first trick, declarer postponed drawing trumps. His first order of business was to eliminate diamonds from both his hand and dummy. Since there was no entry to dummy to cash the third diamond, declarer was forced to create one. He cashed the ace of diamonds, overtook the queen with the king and ruffed the table's remaining diamond. Now he forced out the ace of trumps.

West exited with a club to East's ace, but when East continued with the queen the defenders were faced with a choice of losing alternatives. If the queen was allowed to win, East would be forced to return a red suit. Declarer would ruff in hand while discarding dummy's club, and there would be nothing but trumps on the board. And if West overtook the queen of clubs, declarer's jack would be promoted to the fulfilling trick.

Dummy technique of rare beauty.

FORECAST FOR MONDAY, JULY 11, 1988

YOUR HOROSCOPE

From the Carroll Righter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES:

Make sure that you keep any and all promises that you have made, no matter how great the provocation to change your mind may be. Keep yourself cheerful despite any delays that may come up. You may not be instantly impressed with your progress, but in the long run you are better off if you stick to your plans.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) You must reconcile old standpoints with new ones, so give all aspects careful thought. Postpone the trip you have been planning.

Taurus (Apr. 20 to May 20) Making changes in your financial policies at this time would be foolish. Despite indications to the contrary, security should come first.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Do not be hasty to replace the old with the new at this point. Old friends have much to offer if you use your imagination.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) Circumstances do not seem to suit your personal needs at this time, but do not be hasty to change them. Be generous to your loved ones.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Get excited before going ahead on a promising new venture. You will have to decide whether to cooperate with your mate or a feisty friend.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 21)

Go after your goals in a positive manner, but don't expect others to understand your methods. Plan your time carefully.

LIBRA (Sept. 22 to Oct. 21) Handle your important duties early, because later there will be a strange new project in need of attention. Be tactful in your communications.

SCORPIO (Oct. 22 to Nov. 21) Your practical affairs take precedence at this time. Listen to a proven financial expert instead of a self-proclaimed expert.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Get your ideas well-organized before presenting them. Today you may need expert advice for a personal problem.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Someone quite close to you will need your help before you carry out your plans. Do not take sides in arguments at work or among friends.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Budget some time for old acquaintances before starting a new project. Accept expert advice, but move carefully with your plans.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Your home life will be quite busy today. Let your help gratefully. You may have to mediate an argument before you can work on your own affairs.

THE Daily Crossword by Harvey L. Chew

1 Across	1 Down
2 Across	2 Down
3 Across	3 Down
4 Across	4 Down
5 Across	5 Down
6 Across	6 Down
7 Across	7 Down
8 Across	8 Down
9 Across	9 Down
10 Across	10 Down
11 Across	11 Down
12 Across	12 Down
13 Across	13 Down
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56 Across	56 Down
57 Across	57 Down
58 Across	58 Down
59 Across	59 Down
60 Across	60 Down

Yesterday's Puzzle Solvers:

1 Across	1 Down
2 Across	2 Down
3 Across	3 Down
4 Across	4 Down
5 Across	5 Down
6 Across	6 Down
7 Across	7 Down
8 Across	8 Down
9 Across	9 Down
10 Across	10 Down
11 Across	11 Down
12 Across	12 Down
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1 Across	1 Down
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6 Across	6 Down
7 Across	7 Down
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10 Across	10 Down